

THE HOEDOWNER

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

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COMING EVENTS	NOVEMBER 1982	DISTRICT
Nov 5 & 6 Contest	Western Open	Redding, CA
14 Jam Session	Senior Center	Clackamas 7
14 Jam & Thanksgiving	Grange Hall	Woodburn 8
14 Jam Session	IOOF Hall	Gold Hill 4
14 Jam Session	Moose Hall	Springfield 6
20 Jam Session	N Forks Grange	Florence 5
21 Jam Session	Museum Club Room	Burns 1E
21 Jam Session	County Fairgrounds	Klamath Falls 1
Dec 5 Jam & Xmas Party	Community College	Clackamas 7
12 Jam Session	Moose Lodge	Lebanon 6
12 Jam & Xmas Dinner	Grange Hall	McMinnville 8
19 Jam Session	Museum Club Room	Burns 1E

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Leonard Maahs Vice-Pres.

The Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association held their State meeting at the Lowell Grange Hall on October 10th. President Bill Yohey could not be present, so the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Leonard Maahs. There was a good turnout of District Officers. The forming of a new district was discussed. If formed it would take part of the area of Districts 1 & 2 and would be known as District 9. Rusty Knight is acting chairman of the area at this time and it is known as 1E. They will continue to operate as a temporary district until our convention and general meeting is held in March, at which time it will be voted on. It would take in all of Harney and Malheur Counties, with Highway #26 as the North boundary, which would take a small part of District 2, now inactive. The State convention will be held the third week in March at Roseburg Fairgrounds. The Deatons will again plan the banquet and Leroy Sims will be program Chairman. There will be a \$5.00 fee for overnite parking of Campers and Motorhomes. Our next State meeting will be held in January. Please check your Hoedowner for time and place. It is very important that each district be represented. If the Chairman or Co-Chairman cannot attend, please arrange for some one in the district to represent them.

I would like to personally thank Maxine Benson for the fine work she is doing as Secretary-Treasurer. It is a big job, and I notice she also has her husband pretty well trained to help. Also thanks to Thelma Berg and Linda Danielson for putting on a very nice program.

LEONARD MAHNS, Vice-Pres.

DISTRICT 1 No Report this month.

DISTRICT 1E

We would like to give a special thank you to Mr & Mrs John Murray, Lance Barker, and all the good folks at John Day for making our last jam a big success, The music and the food were extra good.

We signed up eleven new members. There were eleven fiddlers and plenty of good back up music. Four of the fiddlers were new. They were Oren Forrester, Prairie City; Mike Medlock, Spray; Merle McKay, John Day; and Gifford McIntosh from Prairie City.

Susie Smith came in third in the open at the contest in Clarkston, Washington. It was her third contest and she has placed each time.

Our next two jams will be Nov 21st and Dec 19th at the Musuem Club Room in Burns. For both, doors will open at 10:00, potluck at 12:00 and show at 1:00PM.

JOAN KNIGHT - Reporter

DISTRICT 3 No Report this month.

DISTRICT 4

November 14 - Jam Session--- Gold Hill, Oregon I O O F Hall--- Potluck (with a short meeting before the potluck to discuss Christmas plans). Open to the public at 1:00 PM.

Fall is especially beautiful in Southern Oregon and our fiddlers have been utilizing every spare moment playing in local nursing homes, school Halloween carnivals and squeezing in some hunting. Elk hunting will keep more of them in the woods too. A good time was had by all who attended the October Jam Session in Gold Hill. We feel lucky to get the Gold Hill I O O F Hall again for Nov. 14th as many of the local halls are being booked.

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

Only the calendar can really keep us straight for October, but I'll take us through all the things we did for the month. The first Saturday found us at the Green Acres Grange Hall south of Coos Bay playing for the good grangers. The next Friday night we were at Winchester Bay Grange playing for a very fine group of dancers. They certainly made us welcome. The next night we were back at Green Acres playing for "Booster Night". The following Saturday night we drove to the McKinley Grange out of Myrtle Point to play for the dancers. And then the next to last Saturday we drove down the Coast to the Sixes Grange for the fine turn out that we always get down there. For some reason we got the last Saturday of the month off, but we did get an extra hour of sleep. Several of the old faithfuls played at the rest homes at Bandon, Coquille and Myrtle Point. A big thank you to all of the fiddlers and backup who turned out so faithfully this month.

November will find us on the go again, so mark your calendars for: November 6 at Green Acres Grange (potluck at 6:00), Friday night the 12th at Winchester Bay (6:00 potluck), Saturday night the 13th at the Sixes Grange Hall (6:30 potluck), Friday the 19th at the Bandon Rest Home, and Saturday the 20th we will hold a District 5 Jam out of Florence at the North Fork Grange Hall (6:00 potluck). Remember -- exactly 1 mile east of Florence to the North Fork Road and turn north 6 miles to the Grange. You can get there from anywhere and everywhere in Oregon so come and join us. (Bring your fiddles and your backup instruments and join us for an evening of good old time fiddle music).

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

November 14 -- Jam Session at Moose Hall, 23rd & Main in Springfield. Doors open at 10:00 potluck at noon.

At Lowell Grange on October 10, luck was with us and the weather lovely for playing outside as well as inside. Following a State Board meeting, the following fiddlers performed for a full house: Paul Lakey, Wayne Holmes, Stan Gonshorowski, Bill Noble, Penny Mead, Leonard Maahs, Bob Fast, Everett Bennett, Thelma Berg, Poco Boyd, Linda Danielson, Hugh Hiatt, Walt Westberry, Hugh Doolittle, Vilas Sansom, Leroy Sims, and Rusty Knight. Singers included Everett Bennett, Charlotte Sanders, John Clark, Shirley Bailey, Al Hawkins, Leroy and Shirley Sims, and Bruce Tomlin. Ludwig Schoenfelder played harmonica, and Kris Horter, ragtime piano. Other accompanists included Dave Boyd, Dick Ondrasek, Marion Hiatt, Jerry Ruddock, Lee Jones, Hank Napier, Dave Clark, and Addie Gonshorowski. It was good to welcome these from outside the district. Having a state meeting is a great advantage, because of all the good people it brings in!

On September 26, the Lebanon American Legion served homemade chicken and noodles to a few fiddlers and a lot of listeners. Most of us were pretty much the usual bunch, but a couple of specials were not so usual: Arne Thorsen on accordion and piano, and Les Johnson, an amazing player of tunes on the autoharp.

For anybody who happens to be around and interested, a reminder: The last Friday of each month, fiddlers play at the Elmira Grange for a dance at 7:30; potluck at 6:30. Come join us on December 12 at the Moose Lodge in Lebanon for another great Sunday afternoon of jamming. Lunch as usual, courtesy of the lodge for musicians and spouses.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

Our District Jam at Beaverton went over very well. We had a fairly good crowd which was very appreciative. There were 19 fiddlers and around 10 accompanists. We would like to thank each and every one of you who comes to our monthly jam. It takes us all to have a good show and a good time and when you can't make it we miss you. Our next jam, as you all know by now, is at the Milwaukie Senior Citizen Center at the North Clackamas Park. Take Rusk Road exit off Milwaukie expressway #224. Potluck at noon and start playing at one. We open around 10:30, so come early and jam awhile before we eat. Pick out your accompanists. We had a nice time at District 6 jam on October 10, and a good meeting. We would like to thank Walt and Maxine Benson for their hospitality and also Poco and Dave Boyd. Nice to visit them and their homes.

Remember it is getting close to time for sending in your dues for 83. It is wise to get them in by November 25 in time for six months before contest time. If you are paid up members already, January 1 is Due Date, but still wise to send in early. The dues are \$12.00 this year, flat rate. If it is for one person or a family. I would like to thank Mr Myer for donating 3 lbs of coffee to our District. He said he can't cook, so this is his contribution to the potlucks. I think that is a good idea.

UP DATE: Our Christmas party has been changed to December 5 because of some changes in the schedules of the Community College. This is really better because District 6 had their party planned for the same day, so maybe our friends from District 6 will join us at our party.

See you Nov 14th

PENNY MEAD - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

Our jam session for November 14th will be at Woodburn Grange Hall. This will be our Thanksgiving dinner and District 8 will furnish the ham. The rest will be potluck. The Grange Hall is on Settlemier St., across from the Junior High School. We will have a short business meeting starting at eleven o'clock before dinner at noon. Bring your own service.

Bessie Buker has had surgery and is in Good Samaritan Hospital, 1015 N.W. 22nd Ave in Portland. Room 573. At this writing she is doing fine and would appreciate having visitors or hearing from some of her friends. We also learned that Rusty Modrell had surgery last summer, but we didn't hear of it until now.

Dave wishes to express his deep appreciation for all the help at Newport for the big shindig we had there on the 23rd. We managed to get through the parade without any rain although the wind almost blew us out to sea a couple of times. And the two and a half hour show at the restaurant on the Bay Front was a huge success and was much appreciated by the audience. The musicians who turned out to help were: Rusty Modrell, Joey McKenzie, Leonard Maahs, Shorty Allen, Vi Jensen, Charlie Jensen, Ethel Riggs, Slim Schultz, Fern Schultz, Bob Crump, Carl Van Hoosier, Lee Jones, Donna Oldham, Stan Kilbourn, Thelma Berg, Minnie Bennett, Kristalee Horter, Bill Carson, Chuck Williams, Ed Riche, Florence Cowing, and a good bass player, whose name we did not get. Anyway, many thanks to a quality group for a quality program. Our December jam session will be at McMinnville Grange Hall on December 12th. It will be our Christmas Dinner and Party.

Keep fiddling and making people happy

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 1

District 1 held their monthly meeting at Lakeview with Homer McClain and his musical group. It was reported as a very good time and the Trail Riders were there. Its always a fun time to go over there and play with Homer and Clyde and their families. Irene and Jerry Ruddock had a "Going away" party for Dale and Mildred Meints, who have moved to Pharr, Texas. We wish them all good things and will greatly miss them. There was a large bunch of fiddlers and friends at the gala occasion, filling the room with warmth and love.

Fiddlers are playing at all kinds of functions and keeping busy. Les and Lois Tucker, and Chuck and Betty Bruneau played for a circus at Jefferson Mall, also for a Christian Womens Club meeting on October 7th. Martin Arnold and Harold North, with Frank Boyd accompanying them played for an old timer's dance at the Elks, Oct 8. There was a bunch played at Siry's Cafe at Midland. There were a number of house parties held at Meints, Johnson's, Ruddock's, and several play at Elma Ewing's every week. Some play at Sambo's every week, the Nursing Homes are well taken care of by fiddlers, and we play at the church occasionally. If I have missed anyone, please let me know.

There were several played at the Potato Festival and won a trophy, or at least, first place in the music section. We also played after the parade for the barbeque and kept people entertained while waiting in line. Clairmont house is another regular and someone always shows up for it. Thanks to all who keep standing behind our leaders and keep the fiddlers group alive. The pizza house at Keno is on the agenda now, and all are welcome.

We wish to give our blessings to Tina Bailey and her family who moved to Idaho. Also we express our concern for Ray Lane with his painful shoulder. We are thinking about you Ray.

EDITOR'S NOTES (and excuses)

Since I didn't have enough space last month to get in everything I wanted, I decided to eliminate in-spacing and double spacing between paragraphs this month to save space. Well -- it must have worked, for I have more space than I know what to do with. So I will now have to work out some fillers. I will use some of it to explain to the reporters and the readers how we use the articles received in the paper. For one thing, everyone likes to see his name in print, so if you want to send me names, for instance the District 6 and District 8 reports this time, go ahead and put them in. If I have enough room, I will print them. If I am short of space, I will eliminate the names, but will keep the information about them. Also, please get the information to me BY THE 25TH. If I don't get it by then, I must start on it on the 26th in order for it to get in the mail before the first of the next month. If the 25th falls on Sunday, it makes it a day late, so, I would appreciate it by the 24th on those months

NOTICE

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AT THE LAST CONVENTION AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN MARCH 1982 THE MEMBERSHIP VOTED TO INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP DUES TO \$12.00 PER YEAR. I REGRET THAT THE FACT HAD NOT BEEN REPORTED IN THE HOEDOWNER BEFORE NOW. SO WHEN YOU SEND IN YOUR DUES, PLEASE SEND TWELVE DOLLARS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. IT IS A FLAT FEE FOR A FAMILY REGARDLESS OF NUMBER.

SUFFER IN SI SAYS

A bright eye indicates curiosity. A black eye indicates too much curiosity.

My wife is trying to get rid of me. She wanted to trade me in on an adding machine. Said she wanted something she could count on.

Winners of the Seattle Center Fiddle Contest were :

- 1 Bobbi Nagel
- 2 Joey McKenzie
- 3 Harry Johnson
- 4 Carol Ann Wheeler

Joey McKenzie also attended the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kansas and won 3rd in Mandolin and 4th in Fiddle. He said it is a large affair, that is even larger than Weiser. Must be quite an event.

The family of Leonard Green would like to thank all of the fiddlers, and their families for all of your thoughtfulness during his illness. Also for all of the prayers, cards, flowers, and sympathy bestowed upon us with the loss (Aug 3, 1982) of our loved one. May the Lord bless each and everyone of you.

Mrs Leonard Green (Lois)

 *
 * SILENT FIDDLES *
 *
 * LEONARD GREEN, Fiddler Hermiston, Oregon, Husband of Lois Green *
 *
 * MRS MABEL ARMSTRONG Age 93 Mother of Mrs Rusty Modrell *
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Ed Note

To Reporters: The Silent Fiddles department seems to meet the approval of many of our members who have spoken to me. I would like to ask that any report of the passing of any of our members, or anyone else, be double checked for accuracy, including names, relations etc. I certainly do not want to make an error in this department.

SUFFER IN SI SAYS

You just can't please some women. I went to the expense of putting wall to wall carpet in the john, and now my wife wants me to run a strip all the way to the house.

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THE OLDTIME FIDDLER

He was a tall and handsome cowboy
 And he stood above the rest,
 He was an Oldtime Fiddler
 And, to me, he was the best.

He fiddled all the old tunes
 And played them all so sweet
 When you heard him playing
 It moved you to your feet.

He was every inch a gentleman
 From his head down to his feet
 And, with his polished cowboy boots,
 He kept time with the beat.

He knew a thousand fiddle tunes
 How I loved to hear him play
 But, when he played the Kelly Waltz
 He stole my heart away.

By Thelma Berg

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BITS AND PIECES
 By Lois Tucker.

The first point of wisdom is to know what is true; the second, to discern what is false.

FIDDLER OF THE MONTH

HOMER MCLAIN

In the year of 1936 on the 21st day of October, there was a baby boy, the last of nine children, born to Homer and Alma McLain, His name was to be Homer also. Some of you will remember those years, and it was no better in Newport Washington than in the rest of the nation or world. But it was still a happy day with new life, new hope, and new baby in the home.

When Homer was 4 years old, in August of 1940, his family came to New Pine Creek, Oregon, to make their home. The sawmill burned, and, as in Washington, there was no work. In Willow Ranch, California, 14 miles from New Pine Creek, a new mill was making a start and needed men. So here came the McLains with others from Washington.

Homer went to school in New Pine Creek at the Kelly Creek School in a two room school, and became the teacher's pet. He is still Mrs Katy Dick's pet. He played for her on her 90th birthday.

Homer's Dad played the fiddle, and his mother the guitar and piano. Also, two brothers played, Clarence played the fiddle and George played the guitar. The brothers were older and played for dances to make a few bucks to help the family out. The mother gave her guitar to George and had to leave her piano behind when they left Washington, but in later years, in the 60's, Homer bought her another piano.

One day Homer's Dad told him if he would learn to play the fiddle, he would give him his fiddle he had paid \$2.00 for in the 30's, if he wanted it. So at 12 years of age, Homer took up the fiddle, needless to say, with great strain and effort as his Dad wanted his son to learn to play in correct position, and that was very hard to do when you are left handed and Father insists it was going to be done right handed.

Homer would go upstairs and play left handed, and as the chin rest was on the wrong side and he couldn't hold it securely, he was so afraid he would drop his Dad's fiddle he would get a death grip on it with his hand and finger hooked over a peg, and the fiddle cradled in his arms. Upstairs he sounded better than downstairs, and his Dad couldn't understand why, but he was playing lefty upstairs and righty downstairs.

Homer had a lot of admiration for his brother George, who played for a lot of dances and night clubs. When George came home and heard Homer play lefthanded, he took things in his own hands and had a talk with Dad. Dad understood and let him play the way he wanted to.

At the age of 16, Homer started playing for dances, and was so scared that he never looked at anything but his feet. One night the Leader said "Homer, you look up and see, no one is looking at you". Homer looked up and everyone was dancing and Homer started smiling and has been playing and smiling ever since.

Homer played twin fiddle with a Western band for 6 years, but it broke up and moved on and he wound up playing in a barroom and didn't like it so gave up playing and put his fiddle away, except for an occasional tune for his 5 little boys. Then he went to the Tulalake Fair in 1970 and they had a Fiddle Contest and he met L D Daniels and got started playing again and joined the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association, where he is known for his smile, his music and his crazy hats at the Convention Show. Homer still has his \$2.00 fiddle, but no amount of money could buy it now, for it is a cherished keepsake.

Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Association

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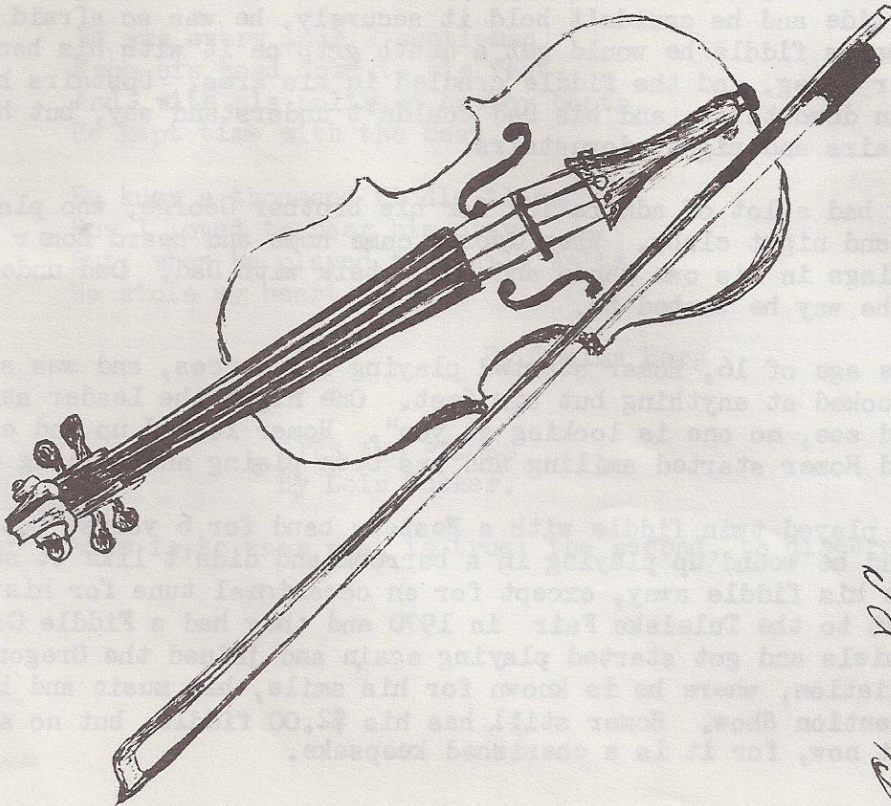


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