

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

APRIL 1983

DISTRICT

Apr	8	Benefit Cancer Res	City Hall	Garibaldi	8
	9	Jam Session	City Hall	Garibaldi	8
	8 & 9	Contest	High School	Hermiston	EMOTFA
	10	STATE JAM	Elsie Stuhn Center	Beaverton	7
	10	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center	Yreka, Calif	4
	10	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center	Bend	3
	17	STATE JAM	Senior Citizen Center	Salem	8
	17	Jam Session	Museum Club Room	Burns	9
	24	Jam Session	Coburg Grange Hall	Coburg	6
May	8	Jam Session	Clackamas Comm Coll	Oregon City	7
	22	Benefit Jam	Woodburn Grange	Woodburn	8
June	5	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center	Gladstone	7
	20 thru 25	Contest	High School	Weiser Idaho	NOTFA
	30 thru				
	July 2	Contest	Union High School	Burns Or	C of C
	July 20 - 24	Campout		Vernonia	OOTFA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Once again, my apologies for being a few minutes late at the convention banquet. Now, may the Lord and others help me remember those who helped and contributed so much to make this year's convention such a success. There were many, and we hope to get their names together for the May Newsletter. Here is a special note to those who didn't get to perform on the show. YOU will always remain just as important in this Association as we who did play and sing. A program Chairman and Co-Chairman had a special and difficult job. They did it well. It was a beautiful show.

The centerpieces were outstanding. My congratulations to all who participated. Instead of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for the decorations, we decided to give three 1st place awards. A check is being sent to the winners. Shall we repeat this next year??? See you at the State Contest May 14 - -

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to take this opportunity and space to thank each and everyone of you who were so kind to send me "get well cards" and kind little notes, which made my stay in the Hospital much nicer, and also lightened the pain. Also I want to thank those who called personally. How could anyone belong to a nicer Organization

LEONARD MAAHS - V P

STATE CONTEST REPORT

By Bill Yohey

The Oregon Old Time Fiddlers State Contest will be in Lebanon, Oregon, May 14, 1983 at the South Lebanon High School. There will be plenty of parking space, but no hook-ups. There will be a place to jam and pre-register available after 3:30 PM Friday evening at the school. Please do not go to the school before that time as school will still be in session until 3:30. This courtesy is for Members Only.

There will be no practicing or jamming in the Registration Room on Saturday morning. Other rooms and space will be available for this. Pee Wees, Junior Juniors and Juniors will have a separate place to register. The number of contestants will determine how many numbers you will play in the final events. If only two numbers are played, it will be a Hoedown and your choice of any other category allowed. Weiser rules will prevail. Each contestant must play a Hoedown, a Waltz and a selection of their own choice other than a hoedown or waltz. Novelty tunes such as Orange Blossom Special, Listen to the Mockingbird, and Black Mountain Rag will not be permitted. All tunes must be of danceable quality. A time of four (4) minutes will be allowed for your performance. The same number of places will be awarded as last year including accompanists awards. All accompanists who appear on stage must be registered and pay a \$3.00 fee. This is quite often paid by the fiddler. State rules require residence in Oregon for six months and a member of the Association for six months. Five (out of state) qualified judges have been chosen to judge the contest. The names will be announced in the next Hoedowner. There will be a meeting of all fiddlers and judges in the registration room prior to the contest Saturday morning. More in next newsletter.

DISTRICT 1

District 1 had their jam session one week early because of the Convention and because of the Home Show being at the Fairgrounds, we held it at Altamont Jr Hi. We had a nice time with thirteen fiddlers and nine accompanists performing. There were some good specials also. There wasn't a large crowd of listeners, but they were enthused and all seemed to enjoy it.

Awards were presented for the most improved accompanist, won by Ed McGinnis on the mandolin, most improved fiddler, won by our new and young fiddler, Virgil Schmoe, and most enthusiastic associate, won by Sarah Fury. Congratulations to all of you, keep up the good work.

Ernest Fury was M.C. and did a good job. Thanks Ernest. We discussed how we can know who has paid dues when it is sent directly to the State Secretary, but didnt come up with a quick answer.

We welcome our new members in to the group. Richard and Lavonne Vaughn from Tulalake, Calif, Richard is learning to fiddle. Troy and Leona Qualls from Merrill, Ore, associates. Harry and Bessie Fury from Klamath Falls, Ore, associates, Harry sits and sketches the musicians while they are performing and others around the room. And Isom and Faye Patterson, Faye is a fiddler. Its so nice to have all of you folks, be sure and come to the potlucks so we can get better acquainted.

There are several functions being played at regularly and some new ones all the time. We were happy to see Angie Weeks back with us after a long vacation and we missed Minnie Springer who didn't feel up to coming. We were also pleased that John Lewis is back fiddling since he retired. We missed Pat Boyer, our new fiddler from Doris, California. Nice to see Chuck back and wish to tell Betty we miss her.

The convention was especially good this year. It was good to see Cheri and Ray Lane sittin' and pickin'. We look forward to another year of fun and fellowship throughout the state. Bill Yohey did a good job as State President and we look forward to good leadership under Leonard Maahs and Fred Virtue. Lets all put effort into helping our new officers with a pat on the back and kind words.

Never forget God loves you and wants us to do the same.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3

District 3 met for our monthly jam session on Sunday, March 13, at the Bend Senior Center. There were nine fiddlers, plenty of good backups, and we were treated to three specials. Our Chairman, Don Hanna couldn't be there, so the jam was MC'd by our Co-Chairman George Terrill. Thank you George, you did a great job!

Hope to see you all next month on April 10th at the Bend Senior Center.
Have a happy Easter.

PEGGY HANSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 4

Yreka California: April 10 - Senior Citizen Center, 821 N. Oregon St., Potluck at noon. We always have a wonderful time at this yearly jam.

The State Convention in Roseburg was well attended by District 4. Good to see all of you Roseburg folks out. The ones trekking from Southern Oregon to Roseburg were: Tommy & Joyce Grissom, Sam and Virginia Stelle, Jack and Clemmie McCasland, John Fellows, Peter & Velma Haugen, Edna & E.K. Meadows, Joe and Kathy Ross, Jiggs Rost, Julian Christiani, Sheri West and Mom, Ginger, Arnold & Marion Jorgenson and the Bennets from Grants Pass. (Hope I haven't left anyone out.) Many comments about the delicious dinner.

Our condolences to Dave Robinson whose brother passed away. Sam Stelle stepped in and took over Dave's job at the Convention during Dave's absence. Sam would like to thank everyone from ALL OF THE DISTRICTS for helping him set up and take down tables and chairs and helping supervise the floor during the convention.

Margie Cox has been "under the weather" and couldn't attend the convention--- Jonas stayed home and took care of her.

Mae Baldwin is in Providence Hospital in Medford for back problems. We hope she has a speedy recovery and our prayers and thoughts are with Mae and John at this time.

Forrest and Pat Wheeler would like to thank the fiddlers who came to Rogue Valley Hospital to play for him. He is home now and recuperating. You fiddlers are popular in the Valley--the nurses eagerly said "yes" to your visit---everyone enjoyed...

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

Reporting for the Hoedowner has new meaning for this month. I had the opportunity to meet Lee Jones, our state editor, so now I know who I'm "talking" to each month. The state meeting of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association in Roseburg was well attended by members from District 5. Fred Virtue was elected vice-president so District 5 is proud to have a State Officer. A number of lucky ones from our region won center pieces after the banquet. There was a lot of great music and many fine people. Our thanks to those who work so hard to put on the state meeting.

Looking back at March - the weather wasn't so good but it was a good month for fiddling. The 5th we went to Green Acres to play for their dance. Their new grill worked fine so we ordered from the "menu" and let somebody else do the cooking. The women especially like this so we'll order from the fine menu again next month (sweet and sour turkey on rice, hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, pie and cake.) Congratulations to Alice Holt for being awarded a special commendation by District 5. Alice was surprised when Chairman Al stopped the music to present her a beautiful plaque for her "inspiration to us all in District 5."

The next afternoon on the 6th, we headed up the coast to Florence for an official District 5 jam at the Elks. It was well attended and we especially appreciated all of you from over the hill who came to help us out. There were 350 people in the audience during the evening.

The next day the fiddlers were again playing. South Western Oregon Community

Dist 5 Cont'd

College hosted a Senior Recognition Day and invited the fiddlers to play during the lunch hour. Thanks to the fiddlers and backup who turned out.

The 26th of this month we will be at the Sixes Grange for their potluck and dance. We always have a good time at the Sixes.

April looks like a big one for district 5. April 2nd we will be at the Green Acres Grange. Come early and order from the menu. The 16th we will be at the Coos Bay Senior Center at 886 S. 4th at 7:00 to play for their dance. The following Saturday, the 23rd, we are anticipating a great evening at Broadbent. It starts at 6:30 with a potluck. Broadbent is on the Powers highway - just take 42 from Roseburg or Myrtle Point to the Powers junction and then south towards Powers. Anybody in downtown Broadbent can tell you where the hall is. We hope to see some of our neighbors from over in sheep country there to help us. We end April at Port Orford on the 30th. We'll be playing for their senior dance at 8:00 (one block south of the grade school and one block east.) We hope some of the Crescent City gang can come up to be with us.

Do any of you out there in "fiddle land" have the music to ROSALEE? I have it on a bluegrass tape and it is played locally at our get togethers, but I am anxious to see it written. Thanks -

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

District Six will gather at the Coburg Grange on April 24. You can get there by taking exit 199 from I-5 (it's just North of Eugene); follow the Coburg signs into town and turn right onto Willamette Street, the first stop sign. Then turn right onto East Mill, and on your left in the middle of the block is the Grange hall. Potluck will commence at noon--please bring your own service--and Grange members will sell desserts. That's how we're getting the hall free, so everyone save room for a piece of pie. Show at 1:00 PM.

Nineteen fiddlers performed at the American Legion Hall in Lebanon on March 13, following lunch served by the Legion and election of district officers. Thelma Berg and Linda Danielson were re-elected district Chair and Co-Chair, and Joe Barta was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Fiddlers included Buck Milligan, Thelma Berg, Leonard Maahs, Stan Gonshorowski, Eddie Johnson, Linda Danielson, Joey McKenzie, Everett Hall, Shorty Allen, Donna Oldham, Vi Jensen, Leroy Sims, Charlie Jensen, Doyle Hall, Willie Carter, Rusty Modrell, Walt Westbury, Charles Sanford, and Bill Yohey. The specials were widely varied: Donna and Thelma played twin mandolins, Les Johnson played autoharp, Lee Jones played mandolin; Joey McKenzie mandolin and banjo; both Rusty and Vi twin fiddled with Linda; singers included Jack Walker, Pat Grogan, John Clark, Charlie Jensen, Doyle and Andry Hall, and Les Wetherall. Accompanists included Tab Allen, Minnie Bennett, Richard Edgar, Ray Goble, Addie Gonshorowski, Al Hawkins, Dick Ondrasek, and Shirley Sims.

Various members of District Six played for the Daughters of the American Revolution State banquet on March 17 in Eugene, and for Grange Play Festivals in Creswell, Coburg and Veneta at Central Grange.

We had a lot of visitors from other districts at the Lebanon jam, and they really gave all us regulars a renewal of energy. It's great to see you all, and come back whenever you can. Much as we all like having handy and frequent district jam sessions, that's one thing I miss about the old days when everybody came from everywhere for those once-a-month statewide jams--then, we got to see everybody.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

Moving right along to our next jam session. It will be a State Jam at Beaverton, 5550 S.W. Hall St, at the Elsie Stuhr Center on April 10th. Proceeds go towards our Campout in July. I would like to personally thank Irene and Bob Ledbetter for recommending the Vernonia Camp Site to us.

We had a very good turn out at the Warner Grange. 26 fiddlers and a nice surprise visit from Bill and Edna Yohey, Lee Jones and Dave and Jeanette Robinson from District 8. A pleasure to have you. We had a large crowd which pleased us all very much.

SPECIAL REPORT ON CAMPOUT -- JULY 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 1983, VERNONIA, ORE

Is your vacation in July?? Then come to our Fiddlers Roundup, Campout, Barbecue and other proposed events. This is for OOTFA members only. Prizes will be awarded for best performance nightly, most authentic old time dress, both men and women, best story teller, horseshoe pitching contest and lots of workshops if you desire. This is a place to come, relax and participate if you want to. A private park including a dumping station for your trailers, and other RV's, available. There will be additional information in each issue of the newsletter. The park is $6\frac{1}{2}$ west of Vernonia. A detailed map will be in the July Hoedowner.

PENNY MEAD - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

First - Our sympathies and condolences to Dave Robinson, whose brother passed away recently, causing he and Jeanette to miss the convention and causing Jeanette to be unable to report this month. So she asked me to fill in. I am grateful for the opportunity to ramble a bit concerning the convention - - So here goes--

I thought this convention was one of the best in recent years. The show was excellent and well organized. The grouping of the talent gave more people an opportunity to perform. Well done Leroy!! Also I thought the jamming (which is an important part of the convention) was great this year. At one time I counted seven groups, all going at once and without excessive interference. It really did my heart good to see our Special Minnie's (Bennett and Springer) enjoying themselves so much. I do believe Minnie Springer fiddled for at least five hours straight, and was back next day for more.

Sam Stelle did such a great job handling the tables and chairs, we decided to appoint him "Convention ChairMAN" and for their able assistance, Tony Spatz as ChairBOY and Katie Melnichuk as ChairGIRL. How about that?? Tanya Melnichuk was official Junior Judge for her assistance in judging the centerpieces. They were great!!!

District 8 had no official activity this month, other than being honored by the election of the 2nd straight State President from our District. We are pretty proud of that. But for the coming month, don't forget our Cancer Research Fund Benefit at Garibaldi on April 8 and our jam on Apr 9. Also don't forget our State Jam at Salem Senior Center on April 17. Any moneys from the Salem jam will go to the Campout at Vernonia. Come if you can, but if you can't, we would accept mail-in donations for either of these benefits. Just send the money to Dave and indicate which benefit it is for.

I particularly enjoyed meeting all the reporters from the Districts. I am glad to get to know you personally. Of course we all know this paper is only as good as the reporters, for you are the ones who write it. Once again - Thank you all.

LEE JONES - Reporter (Temporary)

DISTRICT 9

I am writing this report before the convention, so hope by the time this is printed we will be District 9.

We signed up six new members at our last jam. They are Craig Foster, Kathie Merrill, Clarence and Irene Gardner, and Jim and Rosie Roberts. Rosie Roberts and Kathie Merrill are fiddlers, so we are still finding them.

On our sick list are Della Myrtle Dunten and our Secretary Pat Scott. We sure hope they get well soon.

Our next jam will be April 17th at the Museum Club Room in Burns.

JOAN KNIGHT - Reporter

THUMBNAIL REPORT OF STATE MEETING

A condensed report of events that occurred at the State General Meeting are:

1. Election of Officers - President, Leonard Maahs, Vice-President Fred Virtue, and Secretary-Treasurer, Maxine Benson.
2. A new district #9 was created encompassing Harney and Malheur Counties and a small portion of the southwest corner of Grant County.
3. The by-laws were amended to eliminate the requirement for both district officials to attend quarterly State Meetings. A district may now be represented by one official or by a designated representative.
4. A motion to post contest scores during the contest was tabled for further discussion by districts before a decision by Executive Committee.

REPORT ON THE LONGVIEW CONTEST

Pee Wee	Open
1st TONY SPATZ Bend Ore	JOHN FRANCIS Spokane Wash
2nd KATIE MELNICHUK Portland Ore	CAROL ANN WHEELER Sherwood Ore
3rd TIFFANY PULIN Adna Wash	JOHN MELNICHUK Portland Ore
Juniors	Oldest Fiddler JIM CALVERT
1st GRANT WHEELER Sherwood Ore	Youngest " ALLYSON WESTFAL
2nd TIFFANY WHEELER Sherwood Ore	Farthest " CYNTHIA BARTLETT
3rd SUE HILL Portland Ore	

We all wish to express our appreciation to the people who worked on the food preparation and service. I am sure many people have thanked them in person, but I will do it for everyone. They are: Jim Deaton, Gynn Deaton, Raymond Deaton, Leslie Deaton, Carl Deaton, Steve Morgan, Christine Morgan, Carlton Smith, Marion Smith, Clemmie McCasland, Lois Tucker, Bonnie Powell, Walter Benson, Dulcie Fast, Shirley Sims, and Edna Yohey. Many, Many Thanks to all of you from all of us.

BITS & PIECES
By Lois Tucker.

Pain makes us thine; thinking makes us wise; wisdom makes life profitable.

SUFFERIN SI SAYS

I don't think OOTFA has really hit the big time yet, for I haven't heard of anyone who has grounds for suit against the National Enquirer so far.

FIDDLER OF THE MONTH

HOLLIS TAYLOR

--OREGON STATE CHAMPION 1982--

Hollis Taylor is a native Oregonian, growing up mostly in West Linn, Ore, but also living in Grants Pass, Coquille, Portland and Cottage Grove. She began to study the piano at age six, and at nine added the violin. She learned from her Grandmother, Stella Cox, who taught violin and piano in Ontario, Oregon for over fifty years. Mrs Cox is now 100 years old and lives in Oregon City. She no longer plays her violin, but still plays the piano beautifully. Her eyesight started to fail in her late 70's so she taught Hollis by ear, but also made sure she learned to read music.

Hollis was raised to love all kinds of music--her father's favorite is Hank Williams--but she never heard any real fiddling until 1980 when she lived briefly in Jackson Hole Wyoming. She went to the Teton County Fiddle Contest where the judges were Junior Daugherty, Shelley Clark, and Bill Long. She bought one of each of their albums. Dick Barrett won the contest, and Joe Sites was runner-up. Hollis was excited about the high quality of playing of the judges and contestants. Also, Shelley Clark had a radio program in Jackson every evening and she played a lot of Kenny Baker, Byron Berline, and Bobby Hicks intermixed with country and western music. Hollis had never heard anything like what these people did on the fiddle. She became hooked on listening, but still could not play fiddle tunes like she wanted.

About six months later, back in Oregon, she met Helen Hakanson who invited her to her first jam. She met Penny and Ed Mead. She heard something special in Penny's playing. She and Penny started playing together one night a week, and Penny showed her a lot about the "old-timey" sound. They became close friends as they felt the same way about music--that what's important is not how fast you move your fingers and your bow, but the special qualities and subtleties that make music a personal expression that touches others--.

Ending this with a quote, Hollis says "Penny and June Secor accompanied me at the State Contest this year, and although I won, I still do not think of myself as a contest player. I am excited by all the beautiful tunes, and all the clever tunes, and have so much I want to learn. I hate to start mentioning names for fear of leaving someone out, but I love listening to all the champions we have here in Oregon. They all bring a part of themselves to this wonderful old-time music."

JUNIOR'S WALTZ

With a fiddle in his hand
And a shaggy old bow,
His big hat tilted back
He's the star of the show.

There's a twinkle in his eyes
And a smile on his face
As he draws on the strings
With such talent and grace

The scene is a ballroom
Dancers glide to and fro.
Guitars softly strumming
As he plays soft and low

From all around the room
Smiling Guests are all saying
We waited all evening
For him to start playing.

From the Land of Enchantment
They'd wished for so long
Junior Daugherty, their fiddler
Junior's Waltz is their song.

By M.E."Beach" Beachler
Vice Pres National OTFA

Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Association

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