

THE HOWDOWNER

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

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COMING EVENTS

JUNE 1983

DISTRICT

Jun	3	Contest	Grant Union HS	Canyon City	BMOTFA
	5	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center	Gladstone	7
	12	Cowboy Breakfast		Cherry Grove	---
	12	Jam & Meeting	Grange Hall	Oak Grove	8
	12	Jam & Meeting	Moose Lodge	Cottage Grove	6
	12	Jam Session	Senior Citizens Center	Bend	3
	19	Jam Session	Fairgrounds	Klamath Falls	1
20 -	25	National Contest	Weiser High School	Weiser Idaho	NOTFA
	30	Concert	Washington Park Zoo	Portland	--
Jun 30 thru		High Desert			
July 2		Fiddle Contest	Union High School	Burns Or	C of C
July 9		Jam & Smelt Fry	Yachats High School	Yachats	8
15 & 16		Contest		Baker Or	BMOTFA
	17	Bohemia Days Fair	High School	Cottage Grove	OOTFA
20 to 24		Campout	Rock Creek Campground	Vernonia	OOTFA
22 & 23		Bluegrass Festival	(Peter Britt)	Jacksonville	--
22 & 23		Contest	VFW Hall	Enterprise	BMOTFA
Aug 1 - 6		Haystack Workshop		Cannon Beach	PSU
	7	State Show	Grange Hall	Scio	OOTFA
	18	State Show	Clackamas Cty Fairgrounds	Canby	OOTFA
	20	State Show	Polk County Fairgrounds	Rickreall	OOTFA
	27	Contest		Canyonville	
Aug 29 thru					
Sept 5		Campout	Warwick's	Williams	--

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Bill Yohey

This is an important message to our members who are making plans for the Vernonia Campout July 20 - 24th. A resolution was passed at the 1983 convention stating that our friends and others could join the OOTFA after July 1st for \$6.00. There is no charge for the campground, a Buckaroo Breakfast and lots of barbecued chicken will be provided for our members. State jam sessions at Beaverton and Salem enabled the association to offer this package.. All members, including our out of state members are welcome. The new state officers, Leonard Maahs and Fred Virtue agree that this would solve the inquiry about bringing a guest.

At some time during your visit, you will be asked to register. This will give the committee a count on how many to serve at breakfasts and barbecue. There will be help available if you wish in parking all RV vehicles. A nurse, one of our fine members will be available, if needed. There will be no hookups, but lights are being arranged so we can have jam sessions at night. A map will be in the next Howdowner.

And Now --- Congratulations to all the winners in the State Contest. And a very special thanks to all those nice people who served on Don Loring's committee. They were Lee Jones, Linda Danielson, George Stout, Bonnie Powell, Dulcie Fast, Edna Yohey, Faythe Maahs, Marie Church, Alice Beemer, Geroldine Virtue and Martha Warwick. Maxine Benson, our capable Secretary was in charge of registration this year, and helping her were Grace Fox, Hazel Milligan, and Lee Jones. Jim Secor was our MC and was assisted by Jim Wheeler. Both did a fine job. Bob Church and Kenny Brank served as accompanist judges and serving fingerfoods and coffee in the cafeteria were two nice people - Joe and Stella Barta. Leroy Sims, your sound system was excellent. No problems and very good coverage in the auditorium.

The new President, Leonard Maahs, is in agreement with the sponsors to have the 83-84 contest in Lebanon again next year. However, this time we plan to have the Senior Contest on Friday night, followed by the other Divisions on Saturday. We have grown to the point that we can no longer have a successful contest in one day with the many contestants that we now have.

RESULTS OF OOTFA CONTEST 1983

PEE WEE

- 1 Tony Spatz
- 2 Katie Melnichuk
- 3 Dale Williams

JR - JR

- 1 Tiffany Wheeler
- 2 Andy Emert
- 3 Jennifer Huckins
- 4 Jason Ewing Simpson
- 5 Michael Williams
- 6 Scotty Alexander
- 7 David Williams

JUNIORS

- 1 Grant Wheeler
- 2 Scott Ranes
- 3 Dan Emert
- 4 Susie Hill
- 5 Lisa McMasters
- 6 Sheri West
- 7 Gretchen Pietzold
- 8 Mike McMullan

SENIORS

- 1 Edwin Hjalseth
- 2 Howard Milligan
- 3 Leonard Maahs
- 4 Eddie Johnson
- 5 Guy Kinman
- 6 Van Southwood
- 7 Chet Haven

INTERMEDIATE

- 1 Nolan Murray
- 2 Susan Smith
- 3 Gene Lowe
- 4 Margaret Eng
- 5 Bud Beck
- 6 Penny Mead
- 7 Dee Johnson

CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1 John Melnichuk
- 2 Joey McKenzie
- 3 Heather Bennett
- 4 Carol Ann Wheeler
- 5 Hollis Taylor
- 6 Leroy Sims
- 7 Bob Fast

SUFFERIN SI SEZ

A much used (and abused) guitar player was heard to comment last weekend, that "Going to a fiddle contest was a lot like getting drunk, because you know that you are going to be tired, sick, and have a headache next day so you just have to have enough fun to make it worthwhile."

DISTRICT 1

The jam session for District 1 was held at the Fairgrounds on Sunday May 15, with several members not there, but it was reported that a good time was had by all and there was a good group of spectators to listen and tap their feet. Bill Noble was gone, as he seems to be the only one from this district who attended the State Contest. Good for you Bill.

We are all sorry that Earl Furry is in the Hospital, and we extend our sympathy to his family and our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Sounds like the fiddlers and accompanists had a good time at the O.I.T. Parents weekend for new students, and a large crowd attended. Also sounds like Sandusky was a real trooper to play without much help at the Black Powder Club

Dist 1 Cont'd

and besides it was so cold they could hardly play. Three cheers for those who were willing to go anyway.

We have three new members, Jame LaChance, and Linda and Tracy Clegg. Jame is a guitar player and is learning to play the fiddle and Tracy is a fiddler. Welcome to all of you and we look forward to getting acquainted with all of you.

The special practice and fun night was a success and the next one will be held at Shasta Grange June 2nd, 6:30 to 9:00. Homer invites all to come to Lakeview for a special evening at the Memorial Hall on May 28, 7:00 PM. Don't forget the Sury's Cafe third Thursday and nursing homes on Fourth Sundays. Thanks to those who have been coming. Next meeting at Fairgrounds June 19th.

Virgil had a trip to Michigan which sounds exciting. He got stranded in a snowstorm and gave his folks a fright. We're glad you made it home, Virgil, and I bet your folks are too.

We are fast approaching the time when our new officers will take office, so lets all be ready and willing to help when we can. It is a thankless job to be Chairman sometimes, and we all need to cooperate. We appreciate Jerry and Irene's labors and hauling the P A System around..

Last minute news - - There will be a barbecue potluck at John Lewis' after the 4th of July Parade. All Fiddlers Welcome!

Until next time may our Dear Lord bless each and everyone with His presence and grace.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3

District 3 of Bend had their regular monthly jam session on May 8th, at the Moose Lodge here in Bend.

On Saturday, May 14 we had a paying job, playing at the Timber Carnival over in Prineville. It went real well, and was a lot of fun too.

Congratulations are in order for Tony Spatz for placing first in the Pee Wee Division at the State Contest. He has been working very hard for this and we're all real proud of him.

"Uncle Lenny" Speth had some surgery on May 14. He is home now, recuperating nicely.

Our next jam will be back at the Senior Center on Sunday June 12th.

PEGGY HANSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 4 (Not received)

DISTRICT 5

May has been a busy month that we won't forget for a while. It has been the busiest one-month that we can account for. It has been every Saturday and most of the Sundays. Complaining? No! We are excited and have been having a good time fiddling for a lot of people.

The 7th of May we were at the Greenacres Grange Hall for their dance. The old reliables were there from District 5 as well as Marie Gates and Warren Baker from Elkton. The dancers enjoyed dancing and we enjoyed playing for them.

The next day a group of us went out to Hauser to play for the new Art Craft Shop. The customers were really pleased with the sound of fiddle music as they wandered through the shop. May just stood around and listened for sometime.

Dist 5 Cont'd

The 14th we went to the Bangor Elementary School in North Bend to play for the R.S.V.P. ice-cream feed. Nobody gulped down their ice-cream. People ate slowly and listened to the old time fiddling. Many people just sat around after they finished their ice-cream and listened. The fiddlers like to watch the audience too.

The next afternoon found us back out at Hauser at the Art Center. Again the customers were taken in by the fiddle music. I don't know what music can universally attract and hold the attention of all age groups as much as old time fiddle music. It sure captured the attention of many who did not know they would be hearing fiddle music when they decided to stop in at the art center. By their questions and comments, I am sure that we will be seeing some of them again at some of our other functions.

The 21st at the Senior Center dance in Coos Bay was no exception - a good crowd and a good group of musicians. Dale, Murrel, Ella, and Dan were back-up on their guitars. Al played the Bass. Marie and Betty took turns at the piano. Marie, Bud, Les, Elmer, Warren, Claude, Gene, and Carl were there with their fiddles.

The parade and jam at Brookings on the 28th are yet to come, as is the Fish Derby on the 29th at Lakeside where we will play. Al reports that the trailer has been licensed and that Claude will tow it to Brookings for the parade. We hope that we will see many of you at these two events.

June promises to be a busy month too. The 4th of June we will be at Greenacres - eating from their menu and then fiddling for the dance. The 11th we have been invited to Winchester Bay for a potluck at 6:00 and then a dance to follow. The 18th will find us down at Port Orford at 8:00 to play for the dance at the Senior Center. The next afternoon, Father's Day, we have been invited to Lakeside to fiddle from 3:00 to 5:00. We hope that a number of you can get away to join us. The 25th we will be playing at a picnic at Lee Valley (Mast Grove) out of Myrtle Point. If any of you want a good excuse to come to the coast or if you are down our way this summer, stop by and join us. Be sure to bring your fiddle. We would be more than glad to have you.

You might want to mark a few days down for July. The 2nd will be a big day in Powers. The parade is at 11:00 and we will fiddle again that afternoon. The 9th we plan on being in the parade in North Bend and to play after the parade on the bandstand. The 24th we will have a big jam in Winchester Bay at the Ocean Festival. This is always a great afternoon.

We want to thank all of the musicians who have turned out so faithfully to play and to show their support during these busy months. We have a fine group of musicians and friends. All of us working and playing together give us strength and unity.

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

A suprisingly lively bunch of fiddlers showed up at the Cottage Grove Moose Lodge on May 15, the day after the State Fiddle Contest in Lebanon. We congratulated our District's contest winners, LeRoy Sims and David Boyd (who sensibly didn't try to come to the Cottage Grove session), and Buck Milligan (who heroically did show up about mid-afternoon). Another winner, Leonard Maahs, was with us for the day. As always, it was good to welcome fiddlers from outside the district. Besides Leonard, Vi Jensen, Shorty Allen and Fred Virtue joined us in playing for an enthusiastic crowd of dancers.

Other fiddlers included Paul Lakey, Casey Jones, Vilas Sansom, Stan Gonshorowski, Diane and Melody Bocher, Linda Danielson, Charles Sanford, Dale McCoy Russell Crites, Hugh Doolittle, and Thelma Berg who served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Specials included singers Addie Gonshorowski, John, Michele and Jonna Clark, Jack Walker, and Walt Benson. Shorty on the Accordion and Vi and Linda

District 6 Cont'd

twin fiddling. Other accompanists included Paul Williams, Jerry and Vera Kinaman, Vivian Steele, Dorothy and Chuck Booher, Charlie Jensen, Shirley Bailey, Betty Lou Canning, Phil Nelson and Harlow Adams, visiting from Yakima, Washington.

The Moose Lodge people liked the session so much that they invited us back next month: Sunday, June 12, BUSINESS MEETING at 11, potluck at 12, and show at 1 PM. Please bring your own table service. The address is 711 Hwy 99S, Cottage Grove.

In fact they liked us so much that the old-time fiddlers now have an open, standing invitation to have dinner at 6:30 on any Saturday evening in exchange for playing for about an hour afterward until the regular band arrives. Because it's hard to know who will be there, probably a fiddler would be well advised to bring along an accompanist friend.

Grace Fox still has 1983 membership rosters available for one dollar. Also someone left a guitar strap in Coburg and Thelma is keeping it safe for you, whoever you are.

Fiddlers have been asked to play for the Eugene Parks and Recreation Department's Senior Citizens Strawberry Feed at 1:30 PM on June 9 at Petersen Park Barn, 870 Berntzen Road, just north of Royal Avenue. Also we need to keep in mind the Cottage Grove Bohemia Days show, one of the organizations income-producing events, Sunday, July 17, at 2:30 in the Cottage Grove High School auditorium.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

Here it is time for my report. Our State Contest is over and the results are in and I'm a little embarrassed to become old number 6, but one must take the lumps along with their glory. I want to congratulate all our winners and our non-winners. To compete takes a lot of courage and nerve just to get up there. Also congratulations to our President Bill Yohey and all the people who worked with him to put on such a successful contest.

Our next jam is June 5th at Gladstone Senior Citizen Center, Portland Blvd, next to the Thriftway Store in Gladstone Oregon. Open at 10, Potluck at 11:30, and start playing at 12:30. This will also be Ed and Bob's last jam as Chairman and Co-Chairman. After that, Greg Baker and Helen Hakanson will take charge, and I am sure they will do a fine job.

Our Northern Campout is getting closer and I'm really excited about it. The park is a lovely place. It was raining when I was there and it was beautiful so I can just imagine how beautiful it is in the summertime. The people who have invited us to camp there, are two very lovely people and are as excited as we are to have us coming.

Will be looking forward to the Gladstone jam. It will be our first time there and I had a call from them last week saying they had built a stage, so it will be even nicer. So we'll see you that can make it on June 5th. Our May 8th jam was very nice too. We had 29 fiddles and a nice crowd. Thanks Helen and John Hakanson for the use of the hall.

Late news item -- Evelyn Brunson had surgery Friday morning (20 May) at the Dwyer Hospital in Milwaukie. Our prayers are with her for a speedy and complete recovery.

PENNY MEAD - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

Our next jam session will be June 12th at the Oak Grove Grange hall. To find it going west from Salem on Highway 22 towards the coast, just past the Independence Junction you will come to the Restlawn Cemetery. Turn right (north) and the road sign says Oak Grove. There will also be "Fiddlers" signs up. The

District 8 Cont'd

Grange is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Highway and is next door to the Oak Grove School. If its a nice day we can have the jam outdoors, so bring lawn chairs etc. Potluck, bring own service, open at 10:00 o'clock. There will be a short BUSINESS MEETING before we eat. This will be Dave's last Jam Session as Chairman of District 8.

On July 9th the Fiddlers will have a jam session at the Yachats Smelt Fry as usual. Hope to have a big turnout.

We both (Dave and Jeanette) would like to take the opportunity to thank each and every one that has helped us make this year a great one. Without musicians and listeners, there would be no jams. Thank you very much for the cooperation we have had.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 9

At our May 1st Jam we elected new Officers. The new Officers are :
Chairman - Ruel Teague, Co-Chairman - Brick Calloway, and Secretary- Treasurer,
- Pat Scott.

Everything is ready for the High Desert Fiddle Contest. We have added four more prizes to the Championship Division for a total of seven places. Contestants will pay only their entrance fee, which will include admission for all three days to the contest. Spectators will be charged a nominal fee for admission. Rusty Knight has resigned as advisor to the Committee.

Susie Smith was 2nd in the Intermediate Division at the State Contest. We are very proud of her.

There will be no jam in June, due to the Contest activity.

JOAN KNIGHT - Reporter

EDITOR'S NOTES

Circumstances require me to be in California for about 10 days during the month of June, but if the creeks don't rise and my car don't breakdown, I should be back by the 26th, however that will be a day late for the deadline, so your favorite periodical may be a little late next month. Anyway we will do the best we can. Also a note to the reporters - It would help me if you would put your calendar events first in your reports, right at the top. It is easy to miss them if they are buried in the report. Also my apologies for not publishing all of the notes and articles people send me. I am limited on space and sometimes have to make a choice between notes, and the fiddler of the month etc. Also Mr Yohey asked me to say that he was pleasantly surprised to find that we have enrolled or reenrolled 73 members since our Feb cutoff date. So for the people that were worried about membership decline, it looks like we are getting most of them back.

Dear Members and Friends of the OOTFA

Many many thanks to all who participated in our Cancer Benefit Program on April 8th in Garibaldi. We of the Cancer Committee are most grateful to all who helped make it such a great success. To the Fiddlers of Both Oregon and Washington and to non-members, and to the accompanists, we appreciate all the good music, your willingness, your contributions for such a good cause. All money went to the University of Oregon Health Center for Research only. (Nothing for administrative purposes.) We are most grateful to the Old Time Fiddlers Association for donating to the Cancer Fund, the Collection taken up on Saturday April 9th.

To Dave Robinson and his wife Jeanette, and their helpers, we are much indebted to you for your fine cooperation and excellent leadership of District 8 during your term of office. Also without Larry Modrell we could never have put

this together, so "Hats Off" to you Larry for doing most of the Committee work!
We love you for it.

May God richly bless

Signed HARRIET MODRELL (Chmn) EDITH DEWEY, DOROTHY GRAHAM

On June 12 from 1:00 to 3:00, Doug Bakers 'Beaver Creek Fiddlers' will perform in a Student Recital at the Community Center Bldg, at Clackamas Community College, Oregon City. The public is invited. Donations will be accepted, proceeds will be donated to the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association

At the Cottage Grove High School on Sunday, July 17, 1983, the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association will present a fiddle show from 2:30 to 5:00 PM. If we can get several of our best fiddlers to represent the Association by playing in this show, its a good chance that this show will become an annual fund-raising event for our association. This is an appeal for good fiddlers (you know who you are) to come to Cottage Grove for this show. Last year was a success, please come back and join us again.

WAYNE HOLMES - Program Chairman

I'd like to take a little space to thank all my many fiddling friends for their cards, flowers, visits and calls and prayers. Also the ones that came by with their instruments and played me a few tunes while I was in the hospital. I was there most of April, but am recuperating nicely, but slow, since the hip joint slipped out. Thanks to all.

TEX LOOPER

On Thursday, June 30, at Portlands Washington Park Zoo, there will be a Zoo-grass concert entitled "The Best of Weiser." 1982 National Champion John Francis will be featured, along with 1982 Oregon Champion Hollis Taylor, two-time California Champion Paul Shelasky, and 1983 Northwest Junior Champion Matt Hartz. These concerts are sponsored by Burger King as a benefit to the Zoo. Concerts are free with regular Zoo admission. The concert begins at 6:30 PM Concertgoers are encouraged to come early and picnic on the Zoo lawns.

Note from Weiser - "Everyone will need to purchase a ticket for Saturday night's performance. We have received numerous letters concerning this. After evaluating the pros and cons of this issue the committee has decided to require a Saturday night ticket from everyone wishing to watch the Saturday Nights Championship."

Just a Note -- I would like to take a bit of space in our Hoedowner this time to thank so many of our super nice people for all their visits, calls, cards, flowers and well wishes. I'm doing fine. You're all very special and Thanks so much.

DULCIE FAST.

Sorry there is no Fiddler of the Month this time, as there were too many notes and articles. But the next one, when we have space, will be one of our most popular, talented and beautiful fiddlers. So guess who?????

BITS AND PIECES

By Lois Tucker

Memory is the one Paradise from which man has not been expelled. Walk in its garden and thank God for memories.

Prairie Overcomer.

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Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association

A FIDDLER'S DILEMMA

For weeks you think about it,
Golly, what tunes will I play?
Red Fox? Grey Eagle? Ook Pik?
Guess I'll decide that day.

Gee whiz, it's here already -
Everyone sounds just great
Fiddlin' a practice session
in the hall, out by the gate.

Maybe I should just listen,
Why am I even here????
Those pre-contest JITTERS
really injects the fear.

Oh, my number is called
and I step before the mike
(Playing from within your heart)
You hope it sounds just right.

The judges, they aren't smiling,
The crowd seems real absorbed -
I thought those tunes were O.K.
But everyone looks so bored.

NOW they're clapping and smiling
I finish bowing the last -
It was Fun after all
And now its all in the past.

They call the winning fiddlers
They're the best in all our land
Sometimes when your name is picked
You go home with trophy in hand

If you lose, its O.K. too
Next week, a contest further
The biggest winner of all is
We learn to LOVE one another!

By Lois Bucher
Truth or Consequences, N.M.