

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	SEPTEMBER 1983	DISTRICT
Aug 28 thru		
Sept 5	CAMPOUT	Warwicks Williams
Sep 4	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center Gladstone 7
10	Parade	Talent Harvest Festival Talent 4
11	Jam Session	Moose Lodge Lebanon 6
11	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center Bend 3
16	Contest	Banana Belt Clarkston Wa
17	Jam Session	Bend River Mall Bend 3
18	Jam Session	Grange Hall Lincoln City 8
18	Jam Session	Fairgrounds Klamath Falls 1
18	Jam Session	Rogue Comm College Grants Pass 4
24	Parade	Cranberry Festival Bandon 5
25	Jam Session	Grade School Bandon ? 5
Oct 9	Jam Session	Milwaukie Center Milwaukie 7
16	Jam Session	Salem Senior Center Salem 8

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are all very sorry and shocked to hear of the sudden passing of Geroldine Virtue. We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Fred Virtue, our vice president, and his family.

I would like to personally thank all of those members who worked so hard and played so well at the Town and Country Days at Tigard. Thanks to you, Bob and Dulcie Fast for putting the program together, and also the fine job he did putting the Canby Fair Show together. Both places enjoyed the programs, and want us back next year. We could not put on these shows without the fine cooperation of our fiddlers and accompanists. Thanks also to John Melnichuk and Ed Mead for their fine job of MC at the Canby show.

We also want to thank Greg Baker and his Beaver Creek Fiddlers for a benefit contribution of \$70.00 to the OOTFA. We really appreciate it. Thanks again Greg!

John Melnichuk reported the Washington Park program was a big success. The fiddlers were proud to play for some 12,000 people. Real sorry I had to miss it.

I want to thank everyone for being so cooperative, just one of the things that makes our organization so successful; and I'm very proud to be your president, and appreciate your acceptance of both myself and my wife. Everyone keep fiddling with a smile.

Your President LEONARD MAAHS

Editor's Note! The president's report was written and submitted before the Rickreall County Fair Show, but I can personally report that it went Exceedingly well also.

To all our dear friends in the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association. Your beautiful cards and words of sympathy in our time of sorrow, helped more than you may ever know.

FRED D. VIRTUE & Family

DISTRICT 1

Sept 18th, Monthly Jam Session at Klamath County Fairgrounds. Meeting at 1:00 PM. Open to public at 2:00 PM. Eat at 1:30 or immediately after the meeting.

The monthly Jam Session was held at Malin Park, Malin, Ore and there was a good turnout. We all enjoyed the potluck and watermelon and pop. Too much so I'm afraid, when I get on the scales. We all had a good time playing together in different bunches and moving around and learning new tunes and chords and getting better acquainted. Our new Chairman Chuck Bruneau led the meeting and reported all the places to play in the future, and thanked everyone for their participation in playing at different functions. He also thanked Paul for getting the melon and pop for the picnic and Sarah for the kitchen detail.

We voted to continue the practice night at Shasta Grange the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. The last one was quite successful and enjoyed by those attending. Committee reports were given and Chuck announced new members, John and Dorothy Mathews and Carla Custer & family, all from Klamath Falls.

We all missed Martin Arnold, who has been in the hospital and is home and gradually gaining strength. We also missed Earl Furrey, who is in the Medford Hospital undergoing treatment. We offer our sincere prayers for their speedy recovery and comfort, as well as our love and encouragement. We will see all at the different goings on and at the practice sessions. Until then, may our Dear Lord bless and keep each one safely in his care.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3

September Jam will be held at the Bend Senior Center, 5th and Kearny, on Sept 11. Time 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

Our August Jam Session was a bit short handed, both fiddlers, accompanists and audience. Like Old King Cole, the fiddlers were three... Bob Hawes, Harley and Marge Nimmo. Our able backers were Tom O'Neal and Harley Nimmo on guitar and Marge Chisholm on the bass. Dave Cutcher put in a brief appearance and brought refreshments, but had to return home to attend his wife, Kay, who was ill. Get well soon, Kay. Camping trips, wedding trips and family reunions kept many regulars away.

"The Fiddlers Three" played several tunes in three part harmony, to the enjoyment of the audience. Harry Kramer, a steady member of the audience, who is 92 years young, kept the ladies busy dancing. He can outdance five ladies in three and a half hours of lively music.

The Peery family from Palo Alto, California dropped in to visit and get son Jason, 12 years old, inspired. Jason plays a violin and plays classical music. His family would like him to play the old time tunes also. He borrowed Bob Hawes fiddle and played a classical number for us and it was great.

Three of our regular accompanists will be missing for our September Jam. They are heading in different directions on trips. Tom and Betty O'Neal are going to California for their 40th High School reunion and Jane and Darrell Thompson are taking "Uncle" Lenny Speth to Canada to visit the Thompson's son and family. Have a safe and very enjoyable time and hurry back. We will miss you.

Yours truly vocalized a tune.

MARGE NIMMO - Reporter

Dist 3 Cont'd

Don Hanna, Chairman of District 3, called to add the following info: There will be a jam session, Sept 17th from 2 to 3 PM at Bend River Mall. Hope all local fiddlers will come, as well as any other fiddlers from anywhere, who want to come and help. Publicity will be announced by Radio Station KICE.

DISTRICT 4

Aug 28 - Sept 5, Campout at Warwick's Williams, Ore
Sept 10 - Talent Harvest Festival, Talent, Ore. Parade in Morning. Chicken dinner at Jonas and Marge Cox' at noon. 232 Gibson St., Talent, Ore., 535-4319
Sept 18 - Rogue Community College 1:00 PM Grants Pass, Oregon.

Our Aug 14th jam at Central Point was well attended with 21 fiddlers and Joe Ross and Bob Hinch as specials. Visitors welcomed were Bill Noble, Grant Ellingson and Al Nelson from District 1. The music was hot & lively to match the warm weather. Our group was very saddened to hear about the passing of Geroldine Virtue. Bill Noble and Hugh Samples dedicated two songs to her memory. They played Amazing Grace & Sweet Bye & Bye while the audience stood in silent prayer. Dorene Winkelman played Mansion on the Hill Top in Geroldine's memory. Dorene and Geroldine were grade school chums. Dave and Dorene Winkelman have known Fred and Geroldine for many years. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with Fred at this time.

We are happy to report that John Baldwin is now home from the hospital and he expects to be driving soon. Sara Cade is still on the sick list. We hope she will be up and fiddling soon. Vic and Neva Flood rushed to San Diego as their granddaughter was seriously ill. Our prayers are with them.

TALENT HARVEST FESTIVAL - Sept 10: Marge & Jonas Cox again invite all fiddlers to their home after the parade for chicken dinner. This is not a pot luck. Marge & Jonas provide this lovely lunch out of appreciation and love to OOTFA folk. Marge says she "welcomes the whole bunch".

Bill (Red) & Martha Warwick invite everyone to the CAMPOUT. 2861 E. Fork Road, Williams, Oregon 846-6376. If you can't come during the day, come out for the evening.

Jim Hootz is doing well on his crutches now--hope to see him soon.

Natalie & Amanda Ohle (Granddaughters of Nolan and Elizabeth Grissom and nieces of Tommy and Joyce Grissom) will be at the Canyonville Contest.

PAT WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

Sept 3 - Greenacres Grange dance
10 - Sixes Grange dance. Potluck 6:00 and music at 8:00
24 - Bandon Cranberry Festival. Parade at 9:00, Barbecue at 12:00
25 - The big jam at 1:00 at the grade school.

No tornadoes in Oregon they say - not very often anyway - but this summer has been going around like one. Last month ended with our District 5 jam at Winchester Bay. We always get a good group of fiddlers and a lot of listeners and dancers at the Ocean Festival in the grange hall. Thanks to all of you who came to play. We like to have fiddlers from out of our District come and share with us.

The first Saturday in August we were at Greenacres at the grange hall. It was a great evening. We fiddled and the dancers danced all evening -- what more could you ask for! It was one of those evenings that we really enjoyed because of the music and dancing, but especially because of the nice people that were there.

Dist 5 Cont'd

In the midst of our summer activities, we were all shocked and saddened by the sudden passing of Gerolding Virtue. Our thoughts, our love, and our sympathy all go out to Fred.

On the 14th, District 5 entered an Old Time Fiddler float in the Fair parade at Myrtle Point. We played our hearts out down the whole parade route - even for the TV camera - and came home with a nice big ribbon to add to the collection. The weather was warm and the crowd was very appreciative, so it was well worth getting up early and being there with the chickens.

On the 20th, a gang went down the coast to Port Orford to play for the dance at the Senior Center. Les, Maxine, Elmer, Betty, Al, Norma, Catherine, Claude, Dale, Don, Ivon, and Murrel supplied the music. Al reported that dancers came from as far as 60 miles to dance to the fiddle music. It was another one of those evenings that was fun to make music.

We want to extend a cordial invitation to our fiddling friends across the state (and those of you down in California) to come and join us at the Cranberry Festival in Bandon on the 24th and especially for the jam on the 25th. We always have a large audience, a big stage, and good music. It would be even better if you were there, so plan on coming on over and join us on the coast for a week-end of music. Happy fiddling from District 5.

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

Sept 11 - Jam Session, Moose Lodge, Lebanon Oregon

After no jam session for August, but a whole series of campouts, fairs, celebrations and contests, District Six members will be back to normal with a jam session on Sept. 11 at the Moose Lodge in Lebanon. To find the lodge from the freeway, go all the way through town on the main street; the building is on the right, just a bit south of town. Lodge members will serve lunch to musicians and spouses at noon, with the program starting at 1 PM.

On Sept. 9, you might want to turn on your radio at 10:30 PM to 91.1 FM, KWAX the University of Oregon station. They'll be broadcasting a program which I put together from interviews and music with Jim Hoots, Al Delorme and Stan Conshorowski during the Oregon Oldtime Fiddling Project.

All of us who went, thought Vernonia was wonderful. We're lucky to be in the middle of the state so that we feel about equally drawn to the northern and southern campouts.

Right after Vernonia was Veneta's Applegate Trail Days celebration. In the fiddle contest, Al Swigert took first place, (he made up the tune 'Ski Ride' on Carol Ann Wheeler's second record); Jim O'Bryant took second and Carol Larsen third. We haven't seen any of those winners at our events lately, and that's our loss. In the band contest, Jack Walker's group took first, Vilas Sansom's Group second, and Marcia and Everett Bennett, "Country Crossover", third.

Besides the usual crop of August county fairs, fiddlers here have played for Trude Kaufman Center and for Valley West Nursing home, all with help from Don Wood a former area resident who's down visiting from his current home in District 8.

Our hearts and condolences go to Fred Virtue and his family at the death of his wife Geroldine.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

Sept 4 - Jam Session, Senior Citizen Center, Gladstone
Oct 9 - Jam Session, Milwaukie Center, Milwaukie

We had a terrific show at the Clackamas County Fair last month with 22 fiddlers performing. The following fiddlers were present: Bob Fast, Marria Collins, Leonard Maahs, Ed Hjelseth, Penny Mead, Greg Baker, John Melnichuk, Jack Smith, Katie Melnichuk, Archie Erickson, Dee Johnson, Doug Shepard, Walt Hardy, Chris Delzer, Barney Alexander, Suzie Hill, Chet Haven, Helen Hakanson, Frank Williams, Bill Heard and the Emert Brothers.

Our next shows will be Sept 4, at the Gladstone Senior Citizen Center, 1050 Portland Ave, Gladstone, and Oct 9th at the Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr. Milwaukie. (Take the Rusk Rd exit off Milwaukie Expressway #224) Potluck will start at 12:00 and the show at 1:00. See you there!

GREG BAKER - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

Our Rickreal Fair was a huge success, thanks to everyone who helped. With out everyone's help, these shows would be nothing. The weather was perfect. Comments from the crowd and the Fair Board "You are all a great group." So keep Fiddling.

Our next jam session will be at Lincoln City at the Grange Hall, Sept 18th. Doors will be open at 10 o'clock, and show for the public at 1 o'clock. Potluck at noon. Bring own service.

Dave & Jeanette Robinson were present at the services for Mrs Virtue at Coquille, August 8th 1983 representing District 8. All our sympathy goes out to Fred Virtue and family.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 9

No report received this month.

A note from the desk of the SECRETARY-TREASURER

To all who have played and will be playing in our State Fairs -- "We don't want to thank you for whatcha are doing especially, (though it is very nice of you) but, we wanta thank you for whatcha are too, and the nice way you do whatcha do!"

These 5 yearly Fairs net the State Treasury approximately \$1500.00. - Keep up the good work! Thanks again from all of us.

SPECIAL "JAM" RECIPE

4 hams thinly sliced
stacks of Hot Cakes
3 large potlucks
70 barbecued chickens
a pinch of "bitchin"
A Camp Boss
1 Maiken Meadow
100 stained rigs

Mix thoroughly with mud, add fiddlers and accompanists, fold in a well-beaten Camp Boss. Bake in the rain three days, finish cooking in the Sunshine. Dab with a 'black cow' & a hot wire fence. Serves 200 campers.

Maxine Benson
Northern Campout July 1983

 * SILENT FIDDLES *
 * LOLA B. SIMS, Mt Angel Towers, Aug 1, 1983 - Mother of Leroy Sims *
 * *
 * GEROLDINE E. VIRTUE, Coquille, Aug 5, 1983 - Wife of Fred Virtue *

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you - what else can I say to so many who contributed to the success of the Vernonia Campout. First, the "This is your life" episode was a total surprise to me, secondly, now you know more about me than I do myself.

I'll remember Charter Members, Bessie Buker, Larry & Harriet Modril, Rusty & Vi Modril, Jimmy & Mildred Miller, and Bud Beck for bringing back many memories of the Association.

Thanks to the ex-presidents, Wayne Holmes, Jim Secor, Leroy Sims, Dave Boyd, John Melnichuk and their families for sharing some good times with us. - And Slim and Fern Schultz, June Secor, Joey McKenzie, Matt Hartz, Lee Jones, Fred Virtue, Ruth and Don Loring, Martha & Red Warwick, Leonard Maahs and again Dave Boyd for helping on the bandstand during the program.

It was good to see many of our out of state members. Mr & Mrs Les Tucker, Mr & Mrs Monte Berg, Mr & Mrs Lyle Cleavens and Bill & Dorothy Cory.

Mr Sommers, it was very nice of you to furnish the trailer for our band stand- and you Bill Heard for the covering you let us use.

Phil Emert, you are a champion barbecue chicken preparer. Walt Benson - be ready next year to do those delicious hams again. Thank you Rusty and Vi Modril for helping with the breakfasts everyone enjoyed. Thank you Penny Mead for all the nice articles you wrote concerning the campout. Bob & Dulcie Fast - these two fine people worked 12 hours a day all week. How could you keep going that long and survive.

Thanks to Tommy Grissom, Mr McCoy and Jim Oldham for the use of their four wheel drive vehicles. It was very nice of the Rau family from Mist for taking care of the refuse problem after the campout. I thank the districts who sent a gift or two to Mrs Yohey and I.

Mr & Mrs Harold Maiken made our group welcome at all times. They are most delightful and intelligent people and we look forward to seeing them again.

And you -- Maxine Benson, what ever possessed you to do my life story? All I can say is if you care that much about an individual, may you be our Secretary forever in the OOTFA.

I may have forgotten a few, but I'll be around for those to remind me. I represented all while I was President.

Sincerely - BILL & EDNA YOHEY

Editor's note - - I have run out of poems and songs for the back of the Hoedowner. This one was sent to me by Judee Parsons of the Chamber of Commerce at Weiser. Since it was written in 1970, some of the people mentioned in it have passed on to their reward, however, I happen to have room for it this month. If anyone out there has any poems, songs or anything to fill in the back page, I would greatly appreciate any help. Thanks Judee...

The next one in line to compete with Cliff's dancin'
 In an Old Southern Cake Walk, Charlie Johnson came prancin'.
 Then to my amazement I saw something neat - - -
 A huge, steaming caldron was rolled down the street.
 And behind it in tempo a-stirrin' this brew
 As he Biled Down the Cabbage, Kenny Brank came in view.
 And little Loretta danced along with no halts
 Like a wee, tiny fairy, to the Peek-a-Boo Waltz.
 Then to my surprise came a man on the run
 And I saw at a glance it was George Jenkerson.
 He bowed to his friends as he passed to the side
 In Haste to the Wedding, to kiss the new bride.
 I sure hope he made it and wouldn't be late - - -
 But yonder came Miller, Old Jimmie looked great!
 He was singin' and yodelin' above all the noise
 And was Comin' Down from Five-Mile with his two handsome boys.
 He stopped for a moment 'neath the moon's silvery light,
 And I knew he was Wondering About the Old Folks Tonight.
 And those bright Golden Slippers were worn by Bob Hawes,
 As he danced in the moonlight, drawing heavy applause.
 Then in more modern tempo, I shall never forget
 Freddie Hildebrandt danced by with a Little Coquette.
 'Twas our own Katie Warner, and with flirtatious eye
 She just captured the hearts of the crowd standing by.
 Then in such royal splendor I've ne'er before seen
 Came a' meek, lowly Jack and a most gracious Queen.
 With her magical wand, Erlene "did her thing,"
 And changed husband Ron From a Jack to a King.
 And last but not least came four couples in all
 A whoopin' it up and just havin' a ball.
 Tony Descombæ gave out a big shout - - -
 His friend, named Baruska, was helping them out.
 Bill Durham - Ed Corham, then came Larry Modrell
 Who was doin' the callin' for this old-time quadrill.
 They were dancin' and formin' the Old Texas Star - - -
 Marshall Jackson stopped briefly, and strummed his guitar.
 And Don and Ruth Loring were with every beat
 As they kept perfect rhythm with their swift dancing feet.
 And I heard them exclaim as they danced out of sight,
 "Come on, Oregon Fiddlers, get with it tonight.
 Just tune up your fiddles, and rosin your bow,
 Look out competition - - - here we come, Idaho!!

- Verneda Weber -
 June, 1970

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Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Association

WEISER, OR BUST!

'Twas the night before "Weiser" and all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even my spouse.
Bill was now deep in slumber, for not long ago
He had laid down his fiddle and rosined his bow.
For Weiser was only a few hours away,
And he must get in shape and be ready to play.
In my curlers and kerchief I looked quite a sight,
As I snuggled me down for a nice quiet night.
I was soon lost in dreams and shall never quite know
How all of this happened 'neath the moon's pearly glow.
But all of a sudden I heard such a clatter
I arose from my bed to see what was the matter.
I saw a line coming - - - it was simply uncanny,
For there in the lead was our friend "Ragtime Annie."
With her dress all in tatters, but her head held up high
She was stepping it off as she simply flew by.
But who was that coming? Oh brother - - oh brother!
A banjo in one hand - a fiddle, the other.
With a Sweet Bunch of Daisies pinned there on his vest - -
Bill Yohey and Annie were leading the rest.
And next then in line came old Rusty Modrell
His hips were a swayin' to a fancy quadrill.
With an allemande-left just as pert as could be
Then a bow to his corner, to that gal Sweet Marie.
Cliff Buker came next and I wanted to swoon,
For Cliff came a waltzin' with a Pretty Quadroon.
And Bessie was there to make sure every beat
Was in perfect dance rhythm to Cliff's nimble feet.

Continued on Page 7