

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

OCTOBER 1983

DISTRICT

Oct	9	Jam Session	Milwaukie Center	Milwaukie	7
	9	Jam Session	Senior Citizens Center	Bend	3
	9	Jam Session	IOOF Hall	Gold Hill	4
	9	Jam & Meeting		Burns	9
	16	Jam & STATE MTG	Senior Citizens Center	Salem	8
	16	Jam Session	Fairgrounds	Klamath Falls	1
	23	Jam & Meeting	Grange Hall	Lowell	6
Nov	13	Jam & Thanks giving	Grange Hall	Woodburn	8
Dec	11	Jam & Xmas Party	Grange Hall	McMinnville	8
	11	Jam Session	Moose Lodge	Lebanon	6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We held our first State Meeting, with all our 1983-84 Officers, at Canyonville August 27th. It was well attended by a District Chairman or representative from each District. Our next meeting will be held at the Senior Citizen Center in Salem on October 16, 1983. Meeting will start at 11 AM. Each District is required to have their Chairman or a representative present, One of the main purposes of these meetings is to prepare resolutions and proposals for our annual meeting and convention, where they will be voted on by all members present.

The Canyonville Contest was well attended, winners will be listed in this issue of the Hoedowner. The Deatons are to be commended for a job well done. I'm sure all those who attended had a great time.

We also spent a few days at the Warrick Campout. We really enjoyed it, in spite of the rain. We met a lot of very nice people from other areas. Our Organization surely has some fine fiddlers and entertainers throughout the country. Red and Martha Warwick sure are a great host and hostess. Thanks so much to both of you for your hospitality

We have decided, starting this month, to include our accompanists for our "Fiddler of the Month" program. We will change the title to "Entertainer of the Month" to include everyone. We all know that without accompanists, fiddlers are not much so we want to recognize them. District Chairman, or others, who have nominations or recommendations, please contact me and be prepared to draft the article for write up.

See you all at Salem Oct 16th.

LEONARD MAAHS - President

DISTRICT 1

Jam at Klamath Falls Fairground, Oct 16th, Meeting at 1:00 and eat, than start jamming.

Nursing Homes Oct 23rd, 2:00 PM. Apartments Oct 21st, 7:00 to 8:00 PM.

Practice night, Oct ?? 6:30 to 9:00 PM Shasta Grange, Shasta Way & Madison.

We wish to express our concern for Fred Virtue in the loss of his wife, Geroldine. I'm sorry we didn't know about it last month. Anyway, we send our love to him and his family.

Thanks again to Martha and Red Warwick for the campout. It gets better every year and we feel like everyone is our family. It was great seeing all our old friends and making new acquaintances. Don and Nellie Gish were there and we haven't seen them for about 9 years. He had his 90 year old mother with him. It was really pleasant seeing Lee Eddy after a long spell and we enjoyed playing with him. He is having a ball, running around the country, judging contests, accompanying fiddlers and working to get kids started.

Some entered the Canyonville contest, but I didn't hear how they came out. There are some still attending the practice sessions and we will continue them if they are needed. We missed Earl Furry who is undergoing treatment at Medford, Frank Boyd who had a fall while touring the Scandanavian countries and was injured, Martin Arnold who is home but not at all well, Homer McLain who hasn't been over for a while and Angie Weeks who hasn't been out for a while. And I hear John Lewis isn't feeling quite up to par. We offer our prayers for all those who are not feeling well and ask the Lord's Comfort and Blessing for all. We love you and miss seeing you.

Virgil Schmoie won the belt buckle for being the most entertaining fiddler at the Tulalake Fair and one for being the best fiddler. Bill Noble won second best fiddler and received a buckle also. Congratulations to both of you and keep up the good work. Fay Patterson and Richard Vaughn are coming along fine and we hope to see them in the contest next year as well as Betty Bruneau.

We are taking off camping, so will turn this over to Lois Tucker to finish. Thanks much, Lois. God bless you. Keep fiddling all and may our dear Lord make His light to shine on all of you.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

Sept 18 - Greetings one and All. We had a good jam yesterday. Just our old faithful listeners. More fiddlers than audience. We welcome Fred Sipier from Bremerton Fiddlers to our group. He is a good guitar, banjo and concertina player.

Sorry for the writing instead of typing, our power is off. It is cold this AM, had to build a fire.

May God Bless you.

LOIS TUCKER

DISTRICT 3

District 3 will have their October jam, October 9th at the Bend Senior Center from 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

Ten fiddlers were at the September jam. They were George Terrill, Bob Hawes, Harley and Marge Nimmo, Orlo Flock, Don Hanna, Tony Spatz, Don Hanson, Brian Hanson and Danny Hanson. We were pleased to have Bob Crump from McMinnville with us. Vollie Chishom, Harley Nimmo, Dick Williams, Don Hanna and Don Hanson were the accompanists. Orlo Flock and Marge Nimmo sang a duet.

Don Hanson is bringing up his grandsons properly. Brian and Danny are doing right smartly on their fiddles and are also learning to play the guitar and mandolin. That is going a long way to insure that old time fiddling is going to keep right on making folks happy.

Dist 3 Cont'd

Saturday afternoon, Sept 17th, eleven fiddlers and five accompanists gathered at the Bend River Mall to put on a program which was aired over radio station KICE and received a nice write-up in the local newspaper. Our 92 year old regular audience member, Harry Kraner was at the Mall and kept ladies busy with fancy dancing for two hours. The same Saturday evening, the fiddlers went to the fairgrounds in Prineville and played for the Beef and Lamb Festival.

George and Thelma Terrill took their "Yacht" out for it's final fishing trip before winter.

MARGE NIMMO - Reporter

DISTRICT 4

JAM SESSION, SUNDAY, OCT 9TH, GOLD HILL, OREGON I.O.O.F. HALL; Open at 10:00 AM Potluck and meeting. Open to the public at 1:00 PM

Canyonville Contest was well attended. They included: Carvil "Jiggs" Rost, Sam & Virginia Stelle, Julian Christiani, Vic & Neva Flood, Dusty & Juanita Yancey, Clemmie McCasland, Jonas and Margie Cox, Tommy & Joyce Grissom, Jim Hoots, Ray Krogstad, Elizabeth & Nolan Grissom, Hugh Samples, Forrest & Vivian Samples, Tex & Chris Looper, Ray Hansen & Crystal, Ginger Calderon, Sherri West, Fred Samples, Van Southwood, Martha Warwick, Jim & Gynn Deaton and a lot of Roseburg folk. Guests from out of town were Natalie and Amanda Ohle; Virginia Stelle's Sister and husband from Sun City, Arizona; and Lee Eddy, State of California Champion Guitar Picker. (Hope I haven't missed anyone). We are so proud of all who placed in the contest from District 1.

Talent Harvest Festival was a lot of fun with Fiddlers being pulled in buck board by two little mules. Mr Eual Mitchell from Grants Pass donated the wagon and mules and we are very grateful to him. Jonas and Margie Cox again out-did themselves serving chicken dinner to the fiddlers. Stella Neathammer was a big help too. Thank you Jonas & Margie for your genuine hospitality!

Rogue Community College had 9 fiddlers, 7 backups and specials were Bob Jones, Bob Hinch & Oliver Beakman. About 90 people were in attendance

We are very sorry to report that Mrs Tex Looper had a stroke. She is home now and Tex is taking good care of her. We hope Christine will be able to attend our jam sessions soon. The Looper's have had quite a year with Tex in the hospital too. We are praying for you both. Just have Tex play "Somewhere My Love" and you're bound to get well, Christine.

Fran Tucker fell and broke a bone in her foot. We hope she is getting better fast. Elizabeth Grissom has had some back problems but she is doing better now.

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

- October 1 Dance at Greenacres Grange
- 22 Dance at Port Orford Senior Center

The wood piles are stacked, ready for winter and most of the summer chores are behind us. Fall is upon us and with it comes a new season of fiddle get-togethers. Here in District 5 we haven't let up a bit. The first Saturday in September found us at the Greenacres Grange playing for their dance. It was one of those evenings to write home about. After a business meeting, we had a fine evening of fiddling and dancing. Gene and Mary visited us - glad to have them back. Hollis Real and his family came out to dance and to fiddle. Hurry back soon.

The next weekend we all headed for the Sixes Grange dance. The old timers always look forward to us coming down. Fred Virtue, Dave Pinkerton, Alice Holt, Les McLeod, Elmer Benson, Catherine Hall, Claude Strader, and I played our fiddles.

Max Schieman, Abbie Shaffar, Betty Lively, Al Lively, Roy Zeigler, Dale Alley Murrel Walton, Shorty Dow, and Dan Pullis backed us up.

We had the next Saturday night off, but Sunday we went down the coast to down town Langlois where we played for a 50th wedding anniversary party. The "Old Time Fiddlers" fit right in and were in keeping with the theme of the afternoon. The rain showers passed over and the sun came out to make it a very beautiful Sunday afternoon on the coast. Our hour of playing soon stretched into two hours. It looked to me that many people who had only planned to drop by for a while - ended up staying for the afternoon. It was a good afternoon to talk to their neighbors and to listen to the fiddle music. Thanks to all of you who turned out to play and support us.

I am unable to tell you about our big weekend at the Cranberry Festival on the 24th and 25th, but I hope you were one of those who came down to join us.

We are looking forward to October. On the 1st we will be at Greenacres for our usual dance. We hope that you will come and join us that evening. We will eat from the menu at 6:00 and start playing about 7:30. The 22nd we will be at Port Orford at the Senior Center. The dance starts at 8:00. Several of the people at Langlois said that they were looking forward to us coming down for the dance.

That is it for the month -- keep those good old fiddle tunes playing

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

October 23	Jam Session & Dist Meeting (11:00)	Lowell Grange, Lowell
December 11	Jam Session	Moose Lodge Lebanon
February 12	Jam Session	American Legion, Lebanon

On October 23, District Six members will meet at Lowell Grange for a monthly jam session. The session will be preceded by a District business meeting at 11 AM with lunch available afterwards from the Grange members-- sandwiches, salads, soups, desserts, etc. The public program will begin at 1 PM. To find the Grange from Highway 58, turn left onto the Lowell covered bridge thirteen miles southeast of Eugene. Cross the lake and proceed to Main Street; turn left onto Main. Turn right across Moss Street; two blocks will bring you to the Grange at the corner of Second and Moss.

I missed the Lebanon jam on September 11, but Thelma reports that it was a fine event. Wayne Holmes was master of ceremonies and led off the fiddling. Other fiddlers included Thelma Berg, Paul Lekey, Poco Boyd, Casey Jones, Dale McCoy, Shorty Allen, Al Swigert, Melody Booher, Diane Booher, Vi Jensen, Walt Westberry, Charlie Jensen, Buck Milligan, Darla Miller, Pat Waitenberg, Ron Yung, Bob Yung, Bill Yohey, and Ken Hill. Singers were Ted Miller, the Sims family, Vivian Steele, John Clark, Jim Clark, and Jack Walker. Instrumental Specials included Bill Yohey on tenor banjo; Wayne Holmes and Vi Jensen, twin fiddle; Ray Goble, mandolin; Hattie Andrews and Christine Irby, harmonica and guitar; and Eddie Ritchie, Jew's harp. I hope I have all the information reported accurately. An M.C's notes are sometimes a kind of private code, and I'm working from Wayne's list. My apologies to the accompanists, since I don't have a list of them this time. We had a good number of out-of-district guests this time; thanks to all of them for helping make the day a success, and specially to Minnie Bennett for a full afternoon at the piano for another district's jam session.

Several District Six musicians played for United Fund kickoff celebrations in Eugene and Veneta. All of a sudden things seem awfully calm after the summer's round of shows, campouts and contests. Come join us at Lowell; last year the October weather turned lovely in time for our jam session there. I've ordered another truckload of the same weather for the 23rd. And mark your calendars for the Lebanon Moose Lodge Dec 11, and the Lebanon American Legion February 12.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

We had a fine turn out at our Labor Day weekend jam. Twenty-three fiddlers and eight accompanists performed for a crowd of about eighty.

Our next jam is at the Milwaukie Center on October 9th. The Center is located at 5440 SE Kellog Creek Drive (take the Rusk Road exit off the Milwaukie Expressway #224.) We will have a business meeting at 11:30 (everyone please attend), and a potluck at 12:00. The show will start at 1:00.

Our November jam will be held on November 20th at the Clackamas Community College Community Center Mall. I'm asking our Co-Chairman Helen Hakanson to work on newspaper and radio coverage, so we need a good turnout of fiddlers and accompanists. We'll see you soon.

GREG PAKER - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

Oct 16th Senior Citizen Center - Salem

Nov 13th Woodburn Grange - Woodburn, Our Thanksgiving dinner.

Dec 11th McMinnville Grange - McMinnville, Our Christmas party.

Our jam at Lincoln City was very nice. We had 21 fiddlers and dancing after the program. We had some Washington members from District 10 Oldtime Fiddlers that joined us, which gives us great pleasure. Thank you for coming such a long way to join us at District 8. You're always welcome.

Our next jam will be at Senior Citizen Center at Salem, Oct 16th. Pot luck at noon, warming ovens only. Bring your own service. Doors open at 10 o'clock, State meeting at 11:00 and program starts at 1:00.

I want to thank everyone for their concern and prayers while I was having so many medical tests. My Doctors tell me that the tests came back negative.

Also Dave and I appreciate the great surprise that District 8 Fiddlers bestowed upon us. A beautiful plaque and card of appreciation. We will cherish this the rest of our days. Thank you and God Bless You. You're all a wonderful group.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 9

Oct 9 Business meeting and Jam. Meeting at 11 AM. Potluck at noon, Jam at 1 PM.

The month of September was filled with fun for Fiddlers in District 9. A visit from Bill Yohey prompted an informal jam at the residence of Irv and Suzie Smith on Sept 7th. Sept 10th found the Fiddlers on a float which won first prize in its division at the Harney County Fair. After putting on a program in Triangle Park in the afternoon and playing at the 4-H Auction in the evening, it was good to call it a day.

A Jam was arranged by Merle McKay of John Day for September 18th, with fiddlers from Baker, Harney and Grant counties in attendance. The Jam was held in John Day at the Senior Center. Special appearances were made by the Steen's Mountain Hermit and the Strawberry Mountain Lady. (You'd have to see it to believe it.)

On September 22 an informal jam was held at the home of Ruel Teague. On Sept 23rd the Fiddlers entertained at a banquet for the State, Home, Health Nurses Assn.

Our next Jam will be held on Sunday Oct 9th. A business meeting will begin at 11 AM to discuss plans for next year's contest. A potluck will begin at noon and the music will start at 1 PM. The location will be announced at a later date locally, but will be at either the Museum Club Room or the Senior Citizen Center. State patches are now available from Pat Scott at a cost of \$5.00. Ellen Calloway is making vests.

Those who attended Warwick's Campout have been telling "war" stories and as Pat Scott said, "We had a blast!" From the stories I think she's right.

JANET BURGESS - Reporter

WINNERS OF CANYONVILLE CONTEST

JUNIOR JR

1. Tony Spatz
2. Amanda Ohle

JUNIOR

1. Dan Emert
2. Natalie Ohle
3. Andy Emert
4. Sheri West
5. Gretchen Pietzold

INTERMEDIATE

1. Susan Smith
2. Bud Beck
3. Carol Larson
4. Homer McLain
5. Chuck Bruneau
6. Dave Pinkerton

SENIOR

1. Buck Milligan
2. Edwin Hjelseth
3. Bob Fast
4. Fred Virtue
5. Hugh Samples
6. Jonas Cox
7. Erwin Myers

OPEN

1. Joey McKenzie
2. Bill Yohey
3. Jim Hoots
4. Ray Krogstad
5. Gene Lowe

JUDGES

Wayne Holmes
Leonard Maahs
Bob Crump



Dave and Jeanette Robinson, Gervais, Oregon were the surprised recipients Sunday Sept 18th of a beautiful plaque and card of appreciation from the members of District 8, in appreciation of their outstanding service over the past five years. Dave has been either Chairman or Co-Chairman the past five years and Jeanette has faithfully supervised the kitchen. The award was presented at the District 8 Jam Session at Lincoln City September 18th.

NOTE FROM MARTHA WARWICK

Red and I would like to thank everyone who made the yearly campout once again such a success. We received so many nice cards and letters. Thanks so much for all of your good wishes.

RED AND MARTHA WARWICK

NOTE FROM JIM AND GYNN DEATON

Sorry I don't have room for all of the note, but Jim and Gynn wanted to thank all of the many people who helped make the Canyonville Contest a success. They included the judges, the MC the special music, the workers and donations. They also said they broke even financially. I need one more page for this paper so I can have room for everything.

ENTERTAINER OF THE MONTH

MINNIE BENNETT

Some years ago, we won't say how many, Minnie Bennett was born on a farm just South and West of the town of McMinnville, and she still lives on the farm where she was born. She lives alone, although a son lives on the place nearby. Her house is never lonely however, for her many friends visit her for various reasons, not the least of which is -- music.

For Minnie, music has always been a large part of her life. She and her sisters and brother used to sing in quartets, trios and duets. She plays several instruments, the piano, accordion, organ, guitar, trombone and harmonica. She reads music, but plays mostly by ear.

Minnie is a retired schoolteacher. She goes back to the One Room School days, where she taught all grades and either walked or rode horseback to school daily. During her teaching years, she taught in both Yamhill and Polk counties. Music was a big part in her teaching too. She taught some of them to play the harmonica while she accompanied on the guitar. Since all children are not musically inclined, she would teach some of them on rhythm instruments so all could participate.

She played for dances off and on during her early years, but after she retired from teaching she became much more involved. "Shorty" Wimer, a well known fiddler, is an old friend of the family. He and a friend used to come and have Minnie accompany them for different occasions, or just because they wanted to play. Because of him, she met other fiddlers and became an avid fan of old time fiddling. She has played for dances at the McMinnville Grange Hall for the past 6 or 7 years every Friday night. She goes to as many jam sessions as possible and goes to the National Contest at Weiser Idaho when she can. She also likes to go to the campout at the ranch near Williams. During these sessions, she has met and accompanied many outstanding fiddlers, some of whom have been or become champions.

Minnie has also contributed to the State Organization of Old Time Fiddlers. She is the State Historian and maintains records of the OOTFA accomplishments. She has the only file known of the "Hoedowner" from the beginning. She was also Chairman of District Eight for at least one term. But her primary contribution is her willingness to always help young or inexperienced fiddlers. It seems that, no matter how timid, off-key, or off-time they are, she helps to make their effort presentable. I have never heard of her turning down anyone who asked her to accompany them. Minnie's talent is a tremendous asset, but her personality also wins a blue ribbon.

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Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association

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BLUE CANADIAN ROCKIES

FIRST: In the Blue Canadian Rockies, spring is sighing through the trees
and the golden poppies are blooming, around the banks of Lake Louise
Across the sea they call me, and I'm lonesome and so blue
for the Blue Canadian Rockies and the girl I love so true.

SECOND: Oh how my lonely heart is aching tonight, for the home I long to see
O what I'd give if I could be there tonight, with the sweetheart that's waiting for me

In the Blue Canadian Rockies spring is sighing through the trees
And the golden poppies are blooming round the banks of Lake Louise

Across the sea they call me and I'm lonesome and so blue
For the Blue Canadian Rockies and the girl I love so true

Contributed by Lew Holt