

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 1983		DISTRICT	
Nov 4 & 5	Contest			Redding CA	
	13	Jam & Thanksgiving	Grange Hall	Woodburn	8
	13	Jam Session	Burns Senior Center	Burns	9
	20	Jam Session	William Lane Sen Cent	Springfield	6
	20	Jam Session	Klamath Cty Fairgrounds	Klamath Falls	1
	20	Jam Session	Jerome Prairie Hall	Grants Pass	4
	20	Jam Session	Clackamas Comm College	Oregon City	7
	26	Open House	Sr Cent,	Central Point	4
Dec	11	Jam & Xmas Party	Grange Hall	Woodburn	8
	11	Jam Session	Moose Lodge	Lebanon	6
	11	Jam & Xmas Party	Senior Center	Gresham	7
Jan	15	STATE JAM & MTG	Fairgrounds	Roseburg	4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It looks like our summer is gone and fall is here, and as we look back, I'm sure most all of us enjoyed a wonderful summer.

We held our second State meeting of the year, at the Senior Center at Salem, October 16th. The Districts throughout the State were well represented. Every District can be proud of their Chairmen or Representative they send to the meetings. They are all dedicated people. I am very pleased with their attendance and their interest in making out organization better for all of us. With this kind of cooperation we are bound to become bigger and better. Our next meeting will be held at the Roseburg Fairgrounds, January 15th. This will be a State Jam and State Meeting. Please watch your Hoedowner for dates of all coming events so you can plan to attend and enjoy the Oldtime Music and other entertainment.

Faythe and I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving, and let's all remember to thank the Lord for a great year.

Your President
 LEONARD MAAHS

BITS & PIECES By Lois Tucker

A Christian is not one who is seeking God's favor and forgiveness-----
 He is one who has found them. Timeless Insights.

DISTRICT 1

Nov 3rd -- Practice Session at Shasta Grange, Corner Shasta Way & Madison 6:30PM
Nov 24th - Playing at the Apartments (Clairmont House) 7:00 PM
Nov 20th - Regular Jam Session at Klamath County Fairgrounds -- Meeting at 1:00
and eat immediately after and then start playing at 2:30. Open to public.

District 1 has been having a good turnout of those interested in practicing, there were about fourteen there last time.

The Jam was held on Oct 16th and proved more interesting as we had more variety. Chairman Chuck Bruneau brought up several things that we need to discuss to make a better Jam and we tried some of them, such as putting all the fiddler's names in a hat, then all the accompanists names in a hat and having an audience member take out three fiddlers and four accompanists and putting them together to make an act, and it turned out very well. Some may not have played together before and it may seem strange, but it is a way to get others playing together.

We were very happy to have, as guests, Tom and Joyce Grissom, Bob Hinch and Freida Feirling, all from Medford, Albert Newbert from Bonanza, who is Bett Bruneau's Dad, Rosalee McLain's Grandfather, George Maxwell who is 97 years old from Klamath Falls, Harry Furry, Earl Furry's brother from out of town, John Cooper, Rosalee's mother Rose, and aunt Jo McAuliffe from Merrill. There were eleven fiddlers who signed up and played. We missed Jerry and Irene Ruddock and Grant and Doris Ellingson who were appointed to represent our District at Salem. Also we missed Frank Boyd, Harold North, Ed McGinnis, Dick and Jo Harris and a few others. We were happy to see Earl Furrey out and about. We miss Martin Arnold and Ira Harris who went to be forever with the Dear Lord. I personally valued the opportunity to know them and Melven Bowman, Cliff Tunnell, Will Klice, Faye Arnold and L.D. Daniel while they were here and appreciate the knowledge and kinship I gained from them. Chuck asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of them. We also expressed our concern for Peggy Harris and Ira's family.

Lois Tucker and Anne Johnson were appointed to call on the schools, churches, and other functions to seek out young people and try to get them interested in old time fiddling. Louise Pollick was appointed to Chair the Christmas Party and others volunteered to help. We were happy that Pat Boyer got brave enough to play before the mike and she did right well. Keep it up Pat! We also enjoyed Betty's and Rosalee's singing. Sounded good!

Guess this is all for this month and may all return next month with new enthusiasm, and may the joy of the Lord accompany all every day.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3

The next jam will be November 13th at the Bend Senior Center at 1:30 PM. Those attending the jam October 9th were, George Terrill, Don Hanson, Tom O'Neal, Bob Hawes, Vollie Chisholm and Herley Nimmo. Several fiddlers were away on hunting trips and Marge Nimmo was on the sick list.

With elk hunting season fast approaching we will have a rather slim crowd for the November Jam also, possibly. Maybe when all these seasons pass we can get back to normal. But few or many, a good time is always had by fiddlers and audience.

Don and Lee Hanna and Vollie and Lois Chisholm made the trip to Salem to attend the business meeting safely.

Marge Nimmo will be on the sick list for awhile due to an upcoming visit to the hospital for surgery.

MARGE NIMMO - Reporter

DISTRICT 4

Nov 20 -- Jerome Prairie Hall, Brants Pass, Potluck, Open to public at 1:00 PM
Take Redwood-Crescent City Hwy, left on Redwood Ave. Hall on right side, past
grocery store.

Nov 26 -- Open house, 60th wedding anniversary for Hugh and Fern Samples at
Central Point Senior Center from 2 to 6 pm All fiddlers welcome.

Dec 10 -- Christmas Dinner at Central Point Grange. District furnishes the food.
Fiddlers bring music.

At the October 9 Gold Hill Jam there were 12 fiddlers, 2 harmonicas, 2 mandolins,
and 2 specials with 12 accompanists. It was so good to see Fran Tucker doing so
well after fracturing her foot. Also was a nice surprise to see Mrs Tex Cooper.
Mr and Mrs Van Carrett were visitors from Roseburg. We were unable to have a
business meeting as there was no quorum before 1 o'clock.

Our fiddlers have been busy with the Jacksonville OutHouse race, nursing
homes, senior centers, churches and schools.

Congratulations to Leonard and Pat Samples on presenting Hugh and Fern Samples
with their 24th Grandchild. They also have 17 great grand children.

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

Nov 4 - Langlois Fire Hall

5 - Greenacres Grange Hall Dance

11 - VFW Hall in Bandon - potluck at 6:30

12 - Sixes Grange Hall Dance - Spaghetti dinner at 6:30

19 - McKinley Grange Hall Dance - Thanksgiving potluck.

The Hoedowner came out last month before I could report on our activities at
the Cranberry Festival the last weekend in September. We played on a float in the
parade and won a ribbon for our collection. We wound up in the city park and had
a nice barbeque and played music there for most of the afternoon. We were part-
icularly pleased to have with us, Shorty Allen from Suver, Dorothy Corey from Cres-
cent City California, and Marie Gates from Elkton to help us out. KCBY-TV had us
on camera for a half hour or so with music and interviews. Saturday night we had
our annual party at the VFW hall and Sunday our District Jam at the grade school
where several hundred people came to listen. We had fiddlers and accompanists from
Washington, Oregon and California. We really appreciated all of you who came so far
to join in our music. When it was all over we were able to say, "Another fine Week-
end at the Cranberry Festival in Bandon." Perhaps we'll see and hear you there next
year.

The next week-end, October 1, found us back at Greenacres for our first Sat-
urday dance. We had a good turn out of fiddlers and back up. A little publicity
on TV sure didn't hurt us - we had a hall full of dancers. There were more that
night than I have ever seen at a grange hall dance. And there were many who just
came to listen. Fiddling is always fun, but it is especially fun when there is a
floor full of dancers.

We actually had two week-ends off in October but the 22nd we drove down to the
Senior Center in Port Orford to play for their dance. It was just one of those just
plain fun evenings - one that I want to remember for a long time. We let our hair
down (those of us who have some) and had just a plain fun evening. There was noth-
ing formal. Once in a while we would play by ourselves but usually there were sev-
eral of us playing at the same time. The back up was very much a part of the even-
ing and we all had a good time. The local people in Port Orford are always so app-
reciative of our fiddle music and let us know by their compliments and thank yous.
It is well worth the 60 mile drive down there.

Dist 5 Cont'd

You can see by the list of activities that November is going to be a busy month. On Friday, the 4th, we'll go down to Langlois to play for the people down there. The next night we'll be at Greenacres. I'll bring a tape of the barbeque so we'll have some TV to watch while we eat from the grange menu. On the 11th we will play for the VFW in Bandon. The next night we'll go on down to the Sixes Grange to play for the dance. The 19th we go up to McKinley to play for their dance. There will be a Thanksgiving potluck so bring a punkin pie and come on out and join us.

It was good meeting and talking to a lot of you at the jam in Salem. Have a happy turkey day and we'll see you all next month.

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

Nov 12 - Hoedown-Jam Noon-8PM, Old High School, Oakridge
Nov 20 - Jam Session, Willamalane Senior Center, Springfield
Dec 11 - Jam Session, Moose Lodge, Lebanon
Feb 12 - Jam Session, American Legion, Lebanon

District Six will celebrate the Thanksgiving season with a jam on Nov 20th at Willamalane Senior Center at C and Water Streets in Springfield. To find the center from I-5 either direction, take exit 94, which puts you on I-105. Take the first Springfield exit from I-105; this becomes Second Street. Proceed to C Street turn right, and you're there. The center will be open at 10 for anyone who wants to take advantage of a place to jam casually. The potluck will happen at 12; stove and warming oven will be available. But be sure to bring all service. I'm told there is not so much as a butter knife or a paper napkin in the kitchen. The district will furnish roast turkey, so bring anything to add to that main dish to make up a festive dinner.

The District's business meeting has been rescheduled for November 20 at Springfield, 11 AM because we lacked a quorum at the Lowell meeting. We need members' advice and votes on disposition of some State treasury funds, a regulation governing State terms of office, and rules governing State Contest scores. Besides that we need to take care of some details for our own District. Please plan to attend.

A fund-raising event for the district will take the form of an eight hour hoedown-jam on Saturday, November 12, from noon to 8 PM at the old high school, Garden and School Streets, Oakridge. Food will be sold very reasonably at this event, sponsored by the Oakridge merchants as a civic celebration. Everything over expenses goes into the treasury of District Six. We can obviously use all the people we can get, especially those who say, "I could play all day if I had the chance." Here's the chance, and we could turn this one into a great party. Besides, we've just discovered that there are fiddlers up there in Oakridge and they'd like to join our organization. And anybody from outside the district who has ever had the impulse to fiddle all day without stopping, we'd love it if you'd come and help us.

We got that truckload of wonderful weather to support a full-house crowd and twenty-two fiddlers, half a dozen singers and a harmonica player at the Lowell Grange on October 23. Several guests from Districts 4 and 5 joined us. While we played indoors for a crowded dance floor and filled chairs, some played on the front porch for clusters of step-sitters. Meanwhile District Chair, Thelma Berg celebrated her birthday by sharing with us two cakes brought by members of her family. I'm going to leave out lists of names this time or this report will get so long that they'll make District Six publish its own newsletter next time.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7

Greeting Fiddlers. We had a very nice turn out for our October jam at the Milwaukie Center. Close to forty fiddlers and accompanists performed to a large enthusiastic crowd. Joey McKenzie of McMinnville brought the house down with his fiddle, mandolin, banjo and guitar, and we were glad to see Hollis Taylor back. We were glad to see Bill Yohey too, even though he didn't play.

Our business meeting was nothing short of a smashing success. Bob Fast reported on the last State Meeting and Clara Knight read the minutes. I presented our District with a one-hundred dollar donation which I received from West Linn Fair. A special thanks to Jack Smith, Herman Classen, Jason Ewing, Greg Baker, and the Beaver Creek Fiddlers for making that event a success. It was a nice down home affair and they want us back next year. We completely organized our Christmas Party which will take place on December 11th (Regular times) at the Gresham Senior Center on NE Elliot. Again I wish to thank Penny and Ed Meade, Bob and Dulcie Fast, Frank Williams, Clara Knight, Helen Hakanson and others who volunteered everything from time to turkey and mashed potatoes.

Our next jam will be held at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City on Highway 213, on November 20th. We expect a good turnout and we've invited the press. I hope to see some long lost fiddlers who seem to have vanished during the warm weather... Perhaps the rain will flush them out.

GREG BAKER - Reporter

DISTRICT 8

We had a nice crowd at the Salem Senior Citizen Center for our jam session. Everyone enjoyed being together, even had nice weather.

Our next jam session will be November 13th at Woodburn Grange Hall. This will be our Thanksgiving program. The District will furnish Turkey, Ham, Potatoes, Dressing, Gravy, Rolls and Butter. Potluck on other salads and goodies and additional vegetables. Bring own service. Usual hours, doors open at 10, dinner at noon and show starts at 1 o'clock. There will also be a BUSINESS MEETING at 11 o'clock sharp.

Faythe Maahs says she has two spoons that someone left at Lincoln City. If you have lost a spoon, get in touch with Faythe.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 9

This month's jam was a success with a large audience in attendance and plenty of musicians. Our November Jam will be held at the Burns Senior Center on Nov 13th. A potluck will begin at 1 p.m. with music to follow. A jam will be held every second Sunday of the month.

During October, the High Desert Fiddlers played for a dance at the Elk's Club, A Halloween Dance at the Burns Nursing Home and as a special musical package for the Nazarene Church's 75th Anniversary.

Ruel and Margaret Teague attended a state meeting in Salem October 16 and made a stop off in Barbados on their way home.

The Scotts, Teagues and Susie Smith will be at the contest in Redding, Calif on November 4th and 5th. They will see you there. Happy Fiddling.

JANET BURGESS - Reporter

Editor's Note....Well thats the way it goes. Last month I didn't have room to put in all the material that I wanted, and now this month I have more room than I know what to do with. Pardon me Minnie and Linda for dangling that participle but it seemed the thing to do at this time. But anyway I am going to use part of it to publish Gynn and Jim's nice note that I didn't have room for last month. It is still appropriate and just a little late.

MESSAGE FROM JIM AND GYNN DEATON-CANYONVILLE CONTEST

Since the membership always seems very interested as to how the Canyonville Contest comes out financially, we are pleased to report that once again we broke even. We had a wonderful contest with everything going very smoothly. Had lots of good comments about our M.C, Les Tucker, and the judges, Wayne Holmes, Leonard Maahs, and Bob Crump. A special "Thank You" to Etta Powell and Martha Warwick. We never take your hard and efficiency for granted, gals. Once again you did a marvelous job. We are grateful to all the fiddlers and accompanists who showed up to put on a good show. Those of you who entertained at Forest Glen Senior Residence--that was so nice. Guy Kinman and Tommy Grissom organized this program. ALL the special numbers were great. There have been many nice comments about Gene Lowe's piano number and Mary Lowe's guitar picking. Certainly added nice variety to the show as did Joey McKenzie's banjo and Tex Looper's mandolin. This was Joey's first time at Canyonville.

Thank you, District 4, for providing the sound system and Dusty Yancey to set it up and monitor it. Thanks to the many helpers in various jobs: Linda Danielson, Sam Stelle, Lois Tucker, Dulcie Fast, Joyce Grissom, Maxine Benson, Lou Hoots, Neva Flood, Betty Bruneau. Les and Lois Tucker and Homer and Rosa Lee McClain stayed over Sunday morning to do the clean-up. With their willing and capable hands, the clean-up was done in record time. We so appreciate the cleanliness of the campers. The grounds were in excellent shape.

Appreciation is also due Bill Yohey and Heather Bennett for their generous donation of records for door prizes. And, finally, a great big "Thank You" to all the loyal listeners who support the Canyonville Contest. As long as we can sell enough tickets to pay the bills, we will continue the contest.

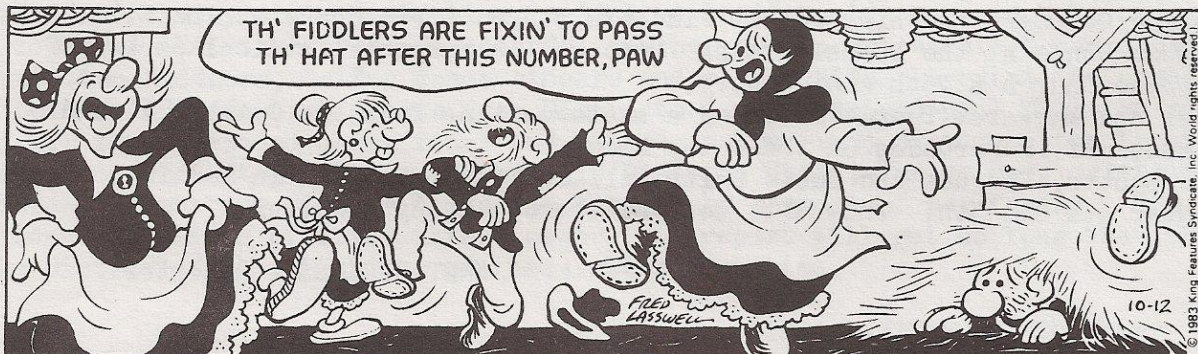
Note: List o' winners was published in last month's Hoedowner.

NOTICE

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YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31,1983 UNLESS YOU HAVE RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION BY PAYING YOUR DUES FOR 1984. YOUR NAME WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE 1984 ROSTER UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE PAID BY JANUARY 31, 1984. PLEASE RENEW EARLY.



SNUFFY SMITH

The Fiddler's Story
from the interviews of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddling Project

John Hoerster--D. 1977

John was a maker as well as a player of fiddles. But back before he began making instruments, he didn't even own a fiddle, but borrowed one when he needed it. Then, around 1930 in Portland:

"The boys found out that I could play the fiddle pretty good, so they decided they would get a band together, and that was it. And they my fiddle that I borrowed wouldn't play loud enough and they'd say, 'Play louder, play harder.' And I couldn't. So I said, 'I'll make one.' That tickled them. They thought that was a big joke. And that's it up there on the mantle. I still have it, and that satisfied all of them; there was no more borrowin' and no more hag-glin' about playing. I played it all the time.

"When it was new, it didn't sound--it was kinda squeaky. So we'd take that sound out by pouring water in it. Hot water. We'd pour it full of water, slosh it around, and dump it out. Why, it'd play nice, deep, beautiful tones, and when it got around eleven, twelve o'clock, they'd begin to holler, 'Get the teakettle! Get the teakettle!' I'd wonder what's the matter. Said, 'John's fiddle's scueakin'.'"

--Linda Danielson

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FIRST CLASS

Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association

I CAN'T BE TRULY THANKFUL

Were I to try to catalogue
 The things life gives to me,
 And set them forth, page after page
 For all who would to see;
 I'd likely say a "Thank you"
 For each thing that helps me live;

But I can't be truly thankful
 Unless I first forgive.

I'd mention food I have to eat,
 The water that I drink;
 The love of those about me, and
 The thoughts I have to think.
 The Spring and Summer's lusty hues
 And Autumn's brazen brown,
 The quietudes of country sides,
 The busy streets of town.
 The sowing and the reaping--
 Each surge of life I live
 But I can't be truly thankful
 Unless I first forgive.

The trees upon a thousand hills
 The water brooks and deep-fenned rills,
 The golden-throated thrush that trills--
 And every bird that sings.
 The sweet rose-scented summer breeze
 The briny sea on every coast

I thank my God for each of these, still,
 For these many pleasant things
 That thrill the life I live,
 I can't be truly thankful
 Unless I first forgive.

For folks who trod a weary way,
 Staunch pilgrims of the past
 And the heritage they gave to us,
 God help us hold it fast.
 The chapel on a wayside road,
 The church of fair renown,
 The freedom there to worship
 If fortune smile or frown.
 And for the blessed Christ of God
 Who died that we might live---
 Yet, we can't be truly thankful
 Unless we first forgive.