

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		DECEMBER 1983		DISTRICT	
Dec	10	Xmas Party	Grange Hall	Central Point	4
	11	Jam & Xmas Party	Grange Hall	McMINNVILLE	8
	11	Jam Session	Moose Lodge	Lebanon	6
	11	Jam & Xmas Party	Senior Center	Gresham	7
	11	Jam Session	Senior Center	Bend	3
	11	Jam Session	Senior Center	Burns	9
	22	Xmas Dance	Silver Creek Grange	Riley	9
Jan	15	Jam Session	County Fairgrounds	Klamath Falls	1
	22	Jam Session	Senior Citizen Center	Salem	8
Feb	12	Jam Session	American Legion Hall	Lebanon	6
Jan	15	STATE JAM	County Fairgrounds	Roseburg	4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Don't forget the STATE MEETING of the Executive Board on January 15th at the Douglas County Fairgrounds at Roseburg. We expect to get the meeting started at 11:00 AM. This will be the last meeting of the Board before the Convention in March. All Chairmen or representatives please attend.

Faythe and I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and may God be with everyone throughout the Holiday Season.

LEONARD MAAHS - President

DISTRICT 1

Our District meeting was held at the Klamath County Fairgrounds on Sunday Nov 20th and Chairman Chuck Bruneau led the business meeting. A lot was accomplished in a short time. We had fiddlers, Chuck Bruneau, Les Tucker, John Lewis, Irene Ruddock, Jerry Ruddock, Irven Johnson, Angie Weeks, Earl Furry, Virgil Schmoie, Bill Noble and Jack Pollock. Accompanists were Jerry Ruddock, Paul King, Dick Harris, Anne Johnson and another person, a new member, whose name I don't have yet. He also plays the accordion and I'm sorry I goofed on that, but we welcome him anyway. Al Nelson plays the accordion too and Lloyd Baker was also there and played the guitar. We missed Minnie Springer, whom I understand is ill, also Grant and Doris Ellingson. I hear Grant is ill too. We offer our prayers and heartfelt thoughts for their speedy recoveries. Lois was away, visiting her mother, who is ill. We missed her, along with Bob Collman, Ed McGinnis, Pat Boyer, Frank Boyd, Elma Ewing, Ray & Cheri Lane, Richard and Lavonne Vaughn, Lu & Keith Wells, and Marlin Jenuzzi, who is working in Texas. Hurry back all you folks. It was nice to see Dennis Tucker and his base, also Lloyd Baker and his wife and Elmer and Gussie Early. Come again folks.

District 1 Cont'd

Chuck gave recognition and tribute to Dave Hitson, a fiddler who passed away. Ernie Furry agreed to be the 'sound technician' and everyone was happy to see him want the responsibility. We offer him our encouragement. Chuck thanked all who are keeping the fiddler's activities going. We purchased a board for the names to be posted on for the programs, and Chuck thanked Les for getting it. Also thanks to Charles Sandusky for coordinating the meeting.

The Christmas program will be at the I.W.A. Hall on Altamont. Just keep going until you see the sign on the right from S 6th St. Ladies bring ladies gift and men bring men's gift, not to exceed \$3.00 in value. Program starts at 6:30 PM. The Fiddlers will furnish the turkey and ham. Members bring own table service and other dishes.

May you all have a very merry Christmas and may our dear Lord bless each one with peace and good will and happiness and good health through the New Year.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3

Dec 8...12 Noon. Fiddlers play for the Golden Age Club Christmas dinner at the Parish Hall in Redmond.

Dec 8...6:00 PM. Fiddlers will have a NO HOST Christmas dinner at North's Chuck Wagon in Bend. Bring your fiddles, banjos, guitars and accordions. No Amplifiers.

Dec 11..Regular Jam Session at the Bend Senior Center from 1:30 to 5:00 PM.

Fiddlers met as usual at the Senior Center on November 13th. Fiddlers were Harley Nimmo, George Terrell, Danny Hanson, Don Hanson, Don Hanna, Bob Hawes, Tony Spatz and Dave Campbell, who was visiting from Madras. They were ably accompanied by Dick Williams, Tom O'Neal, Bill Spatz, Vollie Chisholm, Jame Thompson and Bill Kuhlken who was visiting from Madras. Bill Kuhlken delighted us with a special number on his 5 string banjo, and Thelma Terrill, Poetess extra-ordinary, entertained us with an original poem.

Tony Spatz, our 7 year old fiddler won 1st place in the Pee Wee division in Redding California, where more than two dozen fiddlers participated.

Don and Lee Hanna and Vollie and Lois Chisholm braved the snowy mountains and attended District 6's jam session in Oak Ridge where they had a great time. Don is recovering from knee and wrist surgery. Lee reports that he is getting around some slowly. Marge Nimmo is also recovering from recent surgery. She hopes to be back fiddling and singing again soon.

November 6th, several fiddlers played at the Moose Lodge, and the music sounded better than usual, everyone being in a very good mood. Plenty of good food was served also.

Visitors in the audience were Marvin and Dorothy Chadwell from Monte Vista, Colo., and their daughter Karen Smith from Bend, also Lila Parson and Rex Nutsin from Othello, Wash., friends of Jane Thompson...Edna Olson from Lebanon, Ore., Doris Stephens, a daughter of Bob and Bertie Hawes, from Colorado Springs, Colo., and Claudia Campbell from Madras.

Now that the hunting and fishing seasons are drawing to a close, we hope that those missing fiddlers will get settled down and back to fiddling around.

A short business meeting was held after the jam. Bob Hawes was appointed to select a place to hold the Quarterly jam and business meeting, and a committee was appointed to arrange for the Christmas Dinner.

MARGE NIMMO - Reporter
Assisted by Thelma Terrill and
Lana Williams

DISTRICT 4

Dec 10...Saturday Christmas Party. Central Point Grange, Central Point, Ore.
For our fiddlers and families. District will furnish ham, turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy. Members bring trimmings! (Vegetables, desserts & salads.) No gift exchange! Juanita Yancey is dinner chairman and Stella is cooking the ham.

Jerome Prairie Jam was well attended with the following performers: Van Southwood, Dorothy Cory, Nolan Grissom, Betty Deckard, Alta Bance, Ray Krogstad, Sheri West, Vic Flood, Doreen Winkleman, Sam Stelle, Mary Eek, Jiggs Rost, Tex Looper, Jim Summers, Bob Hinch, Chris Christiani, Jack McCasland, and Betty and Tommy. (Hope I didn't forget anyone). A special thank you to all of the backups... we appreciate you! We were able to have a business meeting before the jam. Nominating Committee for the 1984 Officers are: Tex Looper, Vi Brown and Dusty Yancey. See one of them if you would like to volunteer for an office. A big thank you to Vic Flood for being M.C.

Joyce and Tommy Grissom are leaving for Fountain of Youth Spa in Niland, Calif for the winter. They are really getting a lot of pleasure from their new 5th wheeler rig. They promise to be back in March in time for the convention.

Congratulations to Dorothy Cory for coming in 3rd in the Novice Division at the Redding Contest. Sheri West has one fiddle student and one mandolin student! Congratulations to teacher Sheri. Also heard a rumor that Freda Fierling might begin playing fiddle.

Pat Wheeler's son, John, was in a serious auto accident on Nov. 1st. He has a broken pelvis, jawbone and collar bone. He is currently in Rogue Valley Hospital in Medford.

Jim & Gynn Deaton have graciously accepted chairmanship of the January 15th contest??

Remember 1984 membership is due! \$12. per family from Jan 1 '84 to Dec 31 '84.

Mr Feder of the Merlin Oregon Cake Shop, donated cookies for the fiddlers at the Jerome Prairie Jam. He is making a video tape of the Rogue Valley and will be coming to one of our jams to tape our performers. Dusty and Juanita Yancey also wish to thank everyone for the help they received in putting everything away at Jerome Prairie.

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

DISTRICT 5

Dec 3.... Greenacres Dance - Order from the menu at 6:00

Dec 17... District Five Christmas Party at Greenacres. 6:00 Potluck.

Christmas greetings to all of our fiddle music friends everywhere from all of us down here in District 5. We are looking forward to December and the Christmas Season, but first, I want to mention that all of us hope that you had a Happy Turkey Day and that you had a lot to be thankful for. We did.

On the first Friday in November we were asked to entertain at the Fire Hall in Langlois. We don't get there very often so they enjoy it when we do. They have invited us to come again. The next night we gathered at Greenacres for our "first Saturday" dance. There was a good turn out with many newcomers. The next Friday, the 11th, many of us gathered at the VFW Hall in Bandon to play for the Veterans and their friends. The evening started off with a big potluck and ended with a Hall full of appreciative dancers. Then the next night the 12th we went down to the Sixes Grange to eat spaghetti and to play for their dance. We all relaxed and enjoyed ourselves.

November 19 found us at the McKinley Grange in the wind and rain (typical for November.) The weather didn't hinder us and there was a good turnout of both musicians and dancers, and again a fabulous potluck. Fred Virtue came over from

Dist 5 Cont'd

Fairview to play his songs. Carl and Minnie and Alice and I came over several hills from North Bend. Mapril Combs came over the other hill from Dora. Les McLeod, Catherine Hall and Norma Allen came up from Bandon. Bob Shaffer, also, came up from Bandon to fiddle. Back-up came from across the county. Dan Pullis brought his dobro from Coos Bay. Ella Savery came from North Bend to play her red guitar. Roy Zeigler came from right there in downtown McKinley and Don Mattix brought his harmonica from Greenacres. Murrel Walton from Coquille played his guitar. More from Bandon included Abbie Shaffer, on the piano, Shorty Dow on the guitar, Betty Lively on the piano (and fiddle and accordion), and Al Lively on the bass and as our good MC.

We are looking forward to having a good time in December and hope that you can join us. The first Saturday, December 3rd, we will be at Greenacres again for the dance. You may order from the menu. Two weeks later on the 17th, we will return to Greenacres for our Christmas party. We will be furnishing a turkey and a ham and all of us should bring something for the potluck table. We will have a Christmas exchange during the evening. (Bring a \$3.00 gift and join in.)

I am now taking memberships for 1984. A number of you have already given me your \$12.00 check made out to the OOTFA. I hope you will do likewise.

Happy Fiddling in December.

LEW HOLT - Reporter

DISTRICT 6

Dec 11... Jam Session Moose Lodge Lebanon

Feb 12... Jam Session American Legion, Lebanon

District 6 will meet in Lebanon December 12 at the Moose Lodge. Come and jam before lunch if you have time. Lunch will be served to musicians and spouses at noon, with the program starting at 1 pm. The lodge is on Main Street, on the right hand side as you come from the freeway, about three miles south of the main part of town.

We've put in a couple of busy days, what with the Oakridge merchant-sponsored jam session on November 12 and our regular District session on the 20th. The Oakridge session occurred largely through the efforts of a fiddler from there--Dennis Scott, who brought along another fiddler, Al Haynes. All this time, we thought there weren't any fiddlers in Oakridge. Mostly a bunch of us old regulars played. We were grateful for help from Don Hanna of District 3 and Dennis and Thelma Allen of District 4. Also glad to welcome banjo player O.W. Perini of Cottage Grove and David Kohl, Bill Sprunger and his sister Liza of Eugene. David, Bill and Liza are singers and fiddlers in the 10-12 age range, and they're getting a fine start at old-time music.

On November 20, we ate roast turkey with plenty of trimmings, then played till about 4:30 for a crowd of maybe 250 people at the Springfield Senior Center. From outside the District we had help from Chuck, Dorothy and Melody Booher, Paul Lakey, Ella Savery, and Bill Yohey. New in the District were Tom Given, a fiddler recently arrived from Colorado, Laurie Jones, a fine singer, guitar player and pianist, and Valerie McWhorter and Laura Weber, more of the younger generation. Duane Jones, Laurie's out-of-town brother also sang. And Maxine Benson now not only keeps state records for fiddlers and makes fiddles, she plays one. She performed for the first time at Springfield, shaking just like all of us did the first time, but giving a good account of herself.

At the November 20 business meeting, District 6, approved the State Board's recommendation that the State provide some financial help for underdeveloped districts, and refund some funds to Districts for charitable purposes. We were reminded that District election of Officers will occur in January. If you'd like to volunteer to run, or if you could suggest someone, please call Thelma, Joe Barta

Dist 6 cont'd

or me. As current District Officers, we are also the nominating committee.

O.W. Perini, our new member from Cottage Grove, is also on the Board of Directors for the Western Oregon Operry, a community-based organization for producing concerts at the Dorena Grange. They are starting their second season, and if you are interested, or want more information, call Mr Perini at 942-8786 or Karen Hamilton at Radio KNND, 942-2468

At Oakridge, Anna Schoenfelder said to me, "Now don't forget the kitchen crew in the Hoedowner this time." Yes! There are a bunch of folks, mostly spouses of musicians, who regularly show up to cook, serve, set up or clean up when we have meals. I know individual musicians appreciate that kind of participation and support from spouses, and the rest of us do too. It may seem that we take you for granted, but we know we need you.

LINDA DANIELSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 7 Not Received.

DISTRICT 8

Dec 11... Christmas Party & Jam Session Grange Hall McMINNVILLE
Jan 22... Jam Session, Senior Citizen Center, Salem

We had a nice Thanksgiving Jam at Woodburn Grange. Everyone enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to our Kitchen Workers, and all the cooks that brought so much food. We also enjoyed all those who visited from other districts.

Our next jam will be at McMinnville Grange Hall, December 11th, which will be our Christmas Dinner and gift exchange. Not more than \$3.00 per person for gifts. Men bring men's gifts and ladies bring ladies gifts. If you have children, bring them a gift also. The District will furnish Ham, Turkey, gravy, dressing and potatoes. Ladies bring salads and goodies. Doors open at 10 o'clock, dinner at 12 o'clock noon and show for the public at 1 o'clock.

Hope to see you all at McMinnville.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 9

Howdy Folks! We sure had fun at our monthly jam November 18. Susi Smith came and showed off her newest medal and fiddled a hot streak for us. Susi won first place in the intermediate division at the 2nd Annual Western Open Fiddle Contest in Redding California. Her accompanists were Don Heilman on piano and Benny Scott on guitar. We are proud of her. Other fiddlers at the jam were Turen Dunten, Harry Blair and Brick Callaway. Faithful accompanists were Benny Scott, Joe Enneberg and Pat Scott. Pat would like to take this opportunity to say a special thanks to L.C and Kathy Ashcraft for transportation and motor home accomodations for all who attended the Redding contest. Janet Burgess tried a lick or two on the spoons, Helen Sargent played along on the piano and banjo and newcomer John McGohtlin treated us to some superb mandolin playing and flat picking. Come on back, John.

We should all be back together again, along with a few others, for a jam on December 11, and again for a Christmas Dance at the Silver Creek Grange Hall in Riley on December 22.

The Halloween dance at the Burns Nursing Home was enjoyed by the people there. They are anxious to have us back again. Ruel and Margaret Teague made it back from Barbados in good shape. A post card from Margaret, complete with sunset on the beach and palms nearby said "Hi, having a ball."

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year's to all the Oldtime Fiddlers everywhere.

JANET BURGESS - Reporter

RESULTS OF 2ND ANNUAL WESTERN OPEN FIDDLE CONTEST
REDDING CALIF. NOVEMBER 4 & 5TH

PEE WEE DIVISION

1. Tony Spatz
2. Wade Thomas
3. Amy Fundy
4. Ryan Bills
5. Andy Marshall

NOVICE DIVISION

1. Gerry Mitchell
2. Pat Torburg
3. Dorothy Corey
4. Bea Hasler
5. Bill Whitfield

JUNIOR FLAT-PICK DIV.

1. Morgan Vickers
2. Mark Brown
3. Matt Hartz
4. Paul Carrello
5. Donna Kins

JUNIOR-JUNIOR DIV.

1. Megan Lynch
2. Ruston Ruwe
3. Wendy Wendt
4. Julie Barnes
5. Becky Thompson

INTERMEDIATE DIV.

1. Susie Smith
2. Amy Smith
3. Nancy Blair
4. Maxine Klinger
5. Kiley Ruwe

OPEN FLAT-PICK DIV.

1. Mr ?? Johnson
2. Shelly Johnson
3. Ted Smith
4. Dennis Parker
5. John Relph

JUNIOR DIVISION

1. Kendra Ruwe
2. Linnette Lane
3. Christine Crabell
4. Tim Hodson
5. Mary Golden

OPEN OLD-TIME DIV.

1. Shelly Johnson
2. Grant Wheeler
3. Linda Ralph
4. Paul Shelasky
5. Carol Ann Wheeler

ACCOMPANIST AWARDS

1. Vern Baughman
2. Lee Berchette
3. Lee Eddy
4. Al Myers
5. Joey McKenzie

SENIOR DIVISION

1. Wilbur Treat
2. Coy Daley
3. Howard Milligan
4. Link Hoen
5. Vic Halverson

OPEN PROGRESSIVE DIV.

1. Lisa Barrett
2. Randy Pollard
3. J'anna Jacoby
4. Joey McKenzie
5. Gary Moore

TWIN FIDDLE DIVISION

1. Tiny Moore-Lisa Barrett
2. Joey McKenzie-Kendra Ruwe
3. Nancy Blair-Randy Pollard
4. Carol Ann-Tiffany Wheeler
5. Coy Daily-Karen Dahlstron

Bill and Edna Yohey wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the good people who sent flowers, cards, and telephone calls to Edna at the time of her recent surgery. Good wishes and words of encouragement are deeply appreciated. Edna is home now and doing well. Thanks again.

BILL & EDNA YOHEY

Ed and I both would like to thank all of our many friends in the OOTFA who came to the hospital, sent flowers, cards and phone calls. Those who showed concern for Ed and also for me. Going through these scary and sad times are lessened by the concern and love from all of you. Ed has made it back to a certain point and hopefully he will make it back to where he was with God's help and loving care from us all. I don't know what we would do with out our own family and our Fiddling Family. Thank you so much.

PENNY & ED MEAD.

P.S. Our fiddling friend Clarence Davis, for many years, passed away Saturday, the 12th of November. Also we are all praying for the speedy recovery of Lorene Hjelseth, wife of our Senior State Champion, Edwin. We do hope she will be back home soon.

Penny

Editor Note - My apologies to the reporters whose reports I had to condense this month. With the extra articles this month, it became necessary to save space.

BITS AND PIECES - By Lois Tucker

Liberty is the privilege of being free from things you don't like, in order to be a slave to the things you do like.

ENTERTAINER OF THE MONTH

JOHN MELNICHUK

John Melnichuk was born in Canada and grew up in Vernon B.C. His family consists of his wife, Eileen, and daughters Tanya and Katie. He is the current Oregon State Fiddle Champion. He has worked in various capacities for Pacific Power and Light Company for the past twenty years and recently acquired the office and title of Vice President of Engineering.

John's entire family is involved in music, starting as young boys, taught by their mother. John frequently joins his brother Steve with his band, as does another brother George. Another brother Mike, in Canada is also a musician. John started playing the fiddle at the age of 6.

John has been Montana State Champion and has been Oregon State Champion five times. He was Best Old-Time Fiddler in the certified contest at Weiser, Idaho in 1974. He has placed high at Weiser several times, including 11th place in the Grand Nationals twice.

Not only is he known for perpetuating Old Time Fiddling, but is highly sought after as a fine guitar accompanist. He is very involved in passing on old time fiddling to many younger fiddlers, including his own daughter, Katie. His good nature, sense of humor and warm audience rapport always add to the jams, and shows of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers. He served a term as President of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association and is usually available for assignment to committees etc in helping the organization to function.

LONGVIEW OLD TIME FIDDLE CONTEST

February 18th, 1984, Longview Washington. The Registration will open at 9:30 AM at the Triangle Shopping Center. Preliminaries will start at 11:00 AM at the same site. Finals will start at 7:00 PM at the Columbia Theater. There will be six Divisions. Small Fry, thru 8 yrs, \$55. Jr Jrs, 9 thru 12, \$100. Juniors 13 thru 18, \$150. Intermediate, 19 thru 64, \$150. Seniors 65 & older, \$150. Open, any age, \$225. Trophies to three places. Entry Fee \$5 except Small Fry which is free. Special Rule for Intermediates: If during the past three years, a prospective entrant has been a division winner of the Weiser Contest, or has been a State or Regional Contest Division winner that resulted in the entrant's being Certified for the Weiser Contest, that entrant must play in the Open Division to enter the Longview Contest this year. For more information call Bill Johnson, Office 425-5200, Home 425-9706, area code 206.

REMEMBER

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CUTOFF DATE FOR THE HOEDOWNER FOR EXPIRED SUBSCRIPTIONS WILL BE DECEMBER 31st.
CUTOFF DATE FOR THE ROSTER WILL BE JANUARY 31ST 1984

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