

missing ones 1984

# THE HOEDOWNER

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

|                |               |                       |             |       |          |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| PRESIDENT      | Leonard Maahs | 841 Morgan Lane       | McMinnville | 97128 | 472-7032 |
| VICE-PRESIDENT | Fred Virtue   | HC 83 Box 3660        | Coquille    | 97423 | 396-3051 |
| SECT-TREAS     | Maxine Benson | 2140 Ranch Corral Dr. | Springfield | 97477 | 746-1083 |
| EDITOR         | Lee Jones     | 930 W. Main St        | Sheridan    | 97378 | 843-3638 |

| COMING EVENTS |          | JANUARY 1984               |                                   | DISTRICT        |
|---------------|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Jan           | 8        | Jam Session                | Moose Lodge                       | Cottage Grove 6 |
|               | 8        | Jam Session                | Senior Center                     | Burns 9         |
|               | 15       | Jam Session                | Klamath Cty Fairgrounds           | Klamath Falls 1 |
|               | 15       | <u>STATE JAM &amp; MTG</u> | Douglas Cty Fairgrounds           | Roseburg State  |
|               | 15       | Jam Session                | Elsie Stuhr Center                | Beaverton 7     |
|               | 22       | Jam Session                | Senior Citizen Center             | Salem 8         |
| Feb           | 12       | Jam & ELECTION             | Talent Community Hall             | Talent 4        |
|               | 12       | Jam Session                | American Legion Hall              | Lebanon 6       |
|               | 18       | CONTEST                    | Triangle Cent & Columbia Theater, |                 |
|               | 19       | Jam & ELECTION             | McMinnville Grange                | McMinnville 8   |
| Mar           | 15,16,17 | OOTFA CONVENTION           | Douglas Cty Fairgrounds           | Roseburg State  |

### IMPORTANT NOTE FROM SEC-TREAS

"Your 1984 cards will be coming soon if you haven't already received them. Dues are coming in nicely, but for those of you who have not sent them in, please do so very soon. THE DUES ARE \$12.00 PER YEAR. Our cut-off date is fast approaching, and this will be your last Hoedowner if they are not paid. Names for the roster must be in by January 31, 1984.

MAXINE BENSON - Sec-Treas.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to Everyone. Lets all join in and make 1984 a "fiddlin" good year. As we all look back on 1983, we find that it has been a good year for the association. We are moving ahead in several directions. Fiddling as a whole is improving. The attendance at jams has been larger and programs well organized. Finances are well in hand, which is a credit to all our members who work and play together, all for the OOTFA, which is a goal we can be proud of. Remember the State Jam to be held January 15th at Roseburg County Fairgrounds. There will be a State Executive Board Meeting starting at 11 o'clock. We hope every District will be represented. It is also time to start preparing for our State Convention, which will also be held at the Roseburg Fairgrounds, March 15th, 16th and 17th. There will be jamming the evening of the 15th, work shop and night show the 16th, then on the 17th we'll have our annual meeting, banquet and dance. Hope to see you all there. Keep fiddling and watch your Hoedowner for dates or changes in programs.

LEONARD MAAHS - President

## DISTRICT 1

Jan 15 -- Jam Session at Fairgrounds  
22 -- Nursing Homes  
26 -- Apartments

District 1's meeting was held at the I.W.A. hall at Klamath Falls on the night of the 17th with a nice crowd of grownups and children and we even had a Jolly Old Saint Nick in the person of Al Nelson and he was a good one. It really thrilled the children, and most of the grown children too. Thank you Al. Louise Pollock was the chairman of the program and with her helpers she put on a most natural and enjoyable one. Irven Johnson led the occasion with two Christmas Carols, with Jerry and Anne Ruddock helping him. Then came the worst part with me trying to lead the singing, and if it werent for Rosalee McLain coming to the rescue, it would have been sorry. Oh Yes! there were all the kids to help too. Thanks all of you for helping me out, I didn't realize it was so scary. I understand the fiddlers better now. It was real treat to have Homer and Rosalee and grandson with us.

Louise's elfs were Bess Furrey and Pat Boyer and Harry Furrey, who gave a reading he made up and we will call it "A Christmas Ode to the Fiddlers", which was very nice. Louise says thanks to all of you and those who brought food for the scrumptious meal.

There will be no New Years Eve Party. There are other things going on that evening. Next months jam will be at the Fairgrounds on Jan 15, 1984. Nursing homes on the 22nd and Apartments on Jan 26th.

Minnie Springer is having a bit of trouble with a stiff neck and went to the Hospital for overnight. Sorry to hear that Minnie. Keep looking up and we are praying for you.

Hope everyone will have a Happy New Year with many blessings and peace of mind.

ANNE JOHNSON - Reporter

DISTRICT 3 Not received

## DISTRICT 4

Jan 15 -- State Jam, County Fairgrounds, Roseburg  
Feb 12 -- Jam & Meeting, Potluck Dinner, Election of 1984 Officers, Talent Community Hall, Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Potluck at 11:30, Meeting at 12:30, Open to public 1:00 p.m.

Happy New Year to everyone! Our Christmas Party was a big success with lots of good food and fiddling. Charles Hurd from Keystone, South Dakota was a guest of Hugh Samples. Charles & Pearl are daughter & son-in-law of Hugh & Fern Samples. Juanita Yancey wishes to thank all of the helpers in the kitchen. Juanita & Dusty appreciate all of the help they got with the Christmas party. Without the kind cooperation of so many, they just couldn't have done it all. Vic & Neva Flood brought the tree. Margie & Jonas Cox brought lights and decorations. Neva & Juanita helped decorate. Turkeys were cooked by Neva Flood and Vi Brown. Hams were cooked by Stella Neathammer and Juanita Yancey. Vic Flood MC'd the program. A good time was had by all.

November 26 was the 60th Wedding Anniversary Party of Hugh & Fern Samples. Many fiddlers and friends attended this happy event. The love and strength of this family was felt by all who came to wish them long life, good health and bountiful blessings. A sad note to the event was the untimely death of their daughter-in-law Carla Samples, wife of son John Samples in Puyallup, Washongton. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

PATRICIA WHEELER - Reporter

## DISTRICT 5

Jan 7 -- Dance at Greenacres

All of us from District 5 hope you had a Merry Christmas and we want to wish each of you a HAPPY NEW YEAR FOR 84. For us - December can best be described as "Greenacres". We met there on the first Saturday for our usual dance. We all ordered our hamburgers from the granger's grill. They do a good job. After we moved the tables back, we got out our fiddles and the music began. It was a near perfect evening. It would only have been better if you would have been there too. On the way out one of our favorite dancing couples turned to me and said, "Wasn't this a fine evening!" I agreed with them wholeheartedly. All evening the fiddle music sounded through the hall and the floor was covered with dancers.

Two weeks later on the 17th we went back to Greenacres for our Christmas party. With all of the food - it looked more like Thanksgiving for a while. We ate our fill and watched Dan's movies of performances of the old time fiddlers over the years.

After the tables were put away and Santa Claus handed out the gifts, we got the dance underway. Fred Virtue, Alice Holt, Bob Shaffar, Gene Gosney, Lew Holt, and Carl Dean all did the honors on the fiddles. Don and Mattix and Pat Weyer played their harmonicas. Paul Williams was on the bass. Betty Lively, Abbie Shaffar, and Jerene Shaffar took turns at the piano. Ellas Severy, Dale Alley, Dan Pullis, Ivon Coudry, Murrell Walton and Shorty Dow all played their guitars. The dancers danced the evening away and about 11:00 we loaded up and headed for home. It was a fine evening - a fitting way to end 1983.

The only evening that we have planned at this earlier than usual date, is our first Saturday, January 7, 1984 at Greenacres. You might mark your calendar that we will also be there on Saturday, February 4, and Saturday March 3. We will be going other places in between and we will be having an election coming up too.

LEW HOLT - Reporter

## DISTRICT 6

Jan 8 -- Jam Session, Moose Hall, Cottage Grove

Feb 12 - Jam Session, American Legion Hall, Lebanon

Our December 11th jam at the Lebanon Moose Lodge was a gala event with everyone in a happy holiday mood. There were many fine fiddlers, specials and a great array of back-up accompanists. The Booher family entertained with fiddle, piano, guitar, bass and accordion. Ray Goble tuned up his harmonica for a couple of fine numbers and O.W. Perini picked out some lively tunes on his banjo. Maxine Benson played her fiddle, while hubby Walt sang and adding to the vocal selections were Carol Larson and Vivian Steele, Ted Miller, Loren Wetherall, Jack Walker and John Clark. Debbie Murdock played her fiddle after only three week's practice. Keep up the good work, you newcomers...you are going great. After a great dinner, music and dancing, it was hard to put our instruments away and head for home. However, we are already looking forward to our next Lebanon jam in February. The town always makes us feel so welcome, it is a pleasure to perform there.

Over the holiday season, fiddlers and other performers have been keeping busy playing in smaller groups for various community functions.

At our next jam, on January 8th in Cottage Grove, doors will open at 10:00 a.m. for tuning and jamming, and the Moose Lodge will prepare a light lunch and dessert for a nominal sum. So just remember you don't have to bring anything for a potluck, or table service. That will be especially welcome after all the cooking done over the holidays.

Here's hoping you all had a joyful holiday season. Now let's look ahead to a great year of music and fellowship. See you at Cottage Grove.

THELMA BERG - Reporter

## DISTRICT 7

Jan 15 -- Jam Session, Elsie Stuhr Senior Center, Beaverton

Our Christmas Jam at the Gresham Senior Center was a huge success. I'd like to thank all the folks who participated in the wonderful potluck and the thirty-five fiddlers who performed. We had a large crowd exceeding 250. Thanks to Helen Hakanson who made the newspaper and radio contacts. A special thanks to the Beaver-creek Fiddlers and their Christmas Carol Sing-Alongs, and Santa Claus (Gary Evans) who made a guest appearance!

Our next jam will be held at the Elsie Stuhr Senior Center (643-9434) at 5550 SW Hall Blvd in Beaverton on Sunday, January 15th.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

GREG BAKER - Reporter

## DISTRICT 8

Jan 22 -- Jam Session, Senior Citizen Center, Salem

Feb 19 -- Jam & ELECTION OF OFFICERS, McMinnville Grange Hall, McMinnville

We had a very nice Christmas Party at McMinnville Grange Hall. Everyone enjoyed the food, gifts, and all the wonderful music and dancing. Thank you to all the people that did all the work, which is, each and every one doing their part that makes a good jam session.

Our next jam session will be at the Senior Citizen Center, Salem, Jan 22 1984. Doors open at 10 o'clock, potluck at noon, show for the public at 1 o'clock. Remember we only have warming ovens to keep our food warm.

Our February 19th jam session at McMinnville Grange Hall and Election of Officers.

Those of you who play for nursing homes etc., please keep up the good work, as you make so many happy. Keep fiddling.

JEANETTE ROBINSON - Reporter

HELP

HELP

HELP

NOTICE: to all the people who paid their dues with currency at the District 8 Christmas Party. I gave out 10 receipts but only wrote down 9 names. Some person paid their dues and has a receipt, but I don't have their name. The names I have are: H. Cope, L. Johnson, J. Johnston, N. McGrew, H. Murray, J. Ramsey, E. Riggs, A. Steinmetz, and C. Williams. Will the missing dues payer please contact W. Schultz 612 6th Pl., McMinnville OR 97128 or phone collect 472-1256, to avoid arrears.

Thank you "Slim Schultz" Dist Secty.

## DISTRICT 9

Jan 8 -- Jam Session, Senior Center, Burns.

SEASONS GREETINGS! Fiddlers from District 9 have been busy. The monthly jam on December 11 turned out a good crowd for a scrumptious turkey dinner. Pat Scott and Micky Enneberg cooked the turkeys and everyone else chipped in mashed potatoes, gravy, salads galore and as much pumpkin pie as you'd ever want to see. Susi Smith Ruel Teague, Turen Dunten, Connie Lefor, Brick Callaway and Harry Blair did the fiddling. Back up people included Pat and Benny Scott, Helen Sargent, Dennis Sedam Joe Enneberg, and Janet Burgess.

On the 17th we all turned out to play for the Christmas Dance for the Silver Creek Grange in Riley. The 23rd was the Poison Creek grange's Christmas Dinner, and then on the 30th was a dance at the Elks' Lodge.

Dist 9 Cont'd

Everybody is looking forward to a get-together with Bill and Edna Yohey, and Jim and June Secor on December 28. A no host dinner is planned at the Power House Restaurant and then everyone is invited to jam at the Museum Club rooms. It is always a pleasure when someone drops by.

The next jam will be January 8th at the Burns Senior Center. Potluck lunch is at 1 p.m. and then we'll fiddle around all afternoon.

JANET BURGESS - Reporter

Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the family of Clarence Davis. Thank you all for the blessings of the music and the red glads. Thank you for the flowers.

Viola Davis - Portland.

THE FIDDLER'S STORY

From the Interviews of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddling Project.

EARL WILLIS

Earl Willis of Springfield was born in Mineola, Missouri, a small town near a mineral spring discovered by Daniel Boone. Earl's mother's people were Boones, and to him, being part of the Boone family meant that you learned to play the fiddle:

"My grandmother, my mother's mother, was Delia Boone. And her father was Alanzo Boone. And--well, I don't know just how far it goes back, but you see, Squire Boone was Daniel's father. And there was a whole bunch of those children of Squire Boone's. There was George Boone. My people came from George Boone. I'm the fifth generation from George. And the Boones, my mother's uncles, were all fiddlers. Just old-time fiddlers, you know, couldn't read a note of music; they didn't have time back in them woods. One of them was a very fine fiddler, and he had a boy who's living there now. He's just a little bit younger than I am, Nolan Boone, and he was the state champion of Missouri."

Earl remembers hearing fiddlers at the dances in his early years: "I'd hear these guys play and I just wanted to play so bad, and I'd be out in the cornfield workin', maybe ridin' the disc cultivator, and I'd be a-thinkin' all the time, 'how do you get that bow to work?'"

---LINDA DANIELSON---

Editor's note - This is the last of a series of interviews from the Oregon Oldtime Fiddling Project which was conducted by Linda Danielson and furnished by her for publication for your enlightenment and enjoyment. I hope you have enjoyed them as I have, and I hope you show her your appreciation.

SUFFERIN SI SEZ

"An optimist is a man who thinks that if he had never been born, people would ask why not. A perfectionist is a person who takes great pains, and gives them to other people.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* SILENT FIDDLES \*  
 \* CLARENCE DAVIS, Portland, Date of death unknown, Husband of Viola. \*  
 \* \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Reproduced from Violin & Guitar Makers Journal, February 1971.

VALUES IN VIOLINS

Superiority in tone is attributed partly to the nature of materials, and partly to the skill and method of employment. It is claimed by some that the great Italian makers had special sources of supply for their wood, yet some of the finest woods were imported from across the Adriatic as a common practice, to be sold to the highest bidder. It would appear that today a maker would easily have a far larger choice of equally good material readily accessible.

Great importance was attached to the varnish, and rightly so. Utmost care and attention was used in its manufacture. The mystery of the long lost secret formula of the ancients, to my mind should be, rather that it was never secret. There were so many Italian makers producing instruments of similar excellence, not only geographically but over a time span of many years, that one could assume that the general composition of the finest varnish was a matter of common knowledge in the industry during the 17th and 18th centuries.

The resultant effect of the varnish depended on the quality of the components, the proportions, and especially on the application. The oil required specific conditions of sunlight for the drying process. Those makers in Southern Italy having a distinct advantage over more northerly located artisans. Stradivari once wrote a buyer that the delay in delivering was unavoidable, due to the time required for the drying of the varnish.

It is generally recognized that a perfect varnish aids in the preservation of a fine tone. The action involved is not merely to keep the wood from deteriorating, but to maintain its action. The varnish should be applied at a precise point in the seasoning stage, before the wood fibers become brittle, to soak into the pores and preserve its elasticity. From this it will be seen that varnishing is an operation requiring great skill and a delicate touch. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to conclude that the greatest contribution to superiority of tone was probably due to varnish.

By Bob Vail, Louisville, Kentucky

Ed Note: Well, thats the way it goes. Usually I am completely cramped for space and trimming and cutting to get everything in. Then comes the Holidays and every one sends in short reports. Then I am scrambling for fillers to avoid blank pages. While I have the opportunity, a note to the reporters -- when a member becomes a silent fiddle, please send me the details. There have been instances when a death has been mentioned in the news, but I need more information for the "Silent Fiddle" section. I need name of deceased, name of surviving relative, Birth and death date, and hometown. Some of this I have in my files, but the dates I need from you, as early as possible and please be as accurate as possible. You are all doing great jobs in reporting, and I wish you all a personal HAPPY NEW YEAR. Thank you.

## ENTERTAINER OF THE MONTH

### ROBERT (BOB) CRUMP - McMinnville

Bob Crump, fiddler, fiddle-maker, machinist, engineer and pilot was born in Waldron, Arkansas but spent most of his growing-up years in California. His father was a fiddler, and one brother is still a very good old time fiddler. Bob started playing the fiddle in High School with his good friend Lester Tucker, now living in Lompoc, California. (Not the one living in Klamath Falls.) He played for several years then put his fiddle away and never touched it again until about seven years ago, when he became interested again, and now plays several other instruments besides the fiddle.

Bob and his wife, Joyce, have two children. A son Robert lives in Oregon City with his family, and a daughter, Margaret, and her family live in McMinnville. They have three grandsons and Bob has high hopes they will all learn to play the fiddle. The oldest is now taking violin lessons. Bob worked for several years as a tool and die maker for Friden Calculators in San Leandro, California before coming to Oregon. For the past twenty-two years he has worked as an engineer here in McMinnville with Field Emission Corporation and Hewlett Packard. They make medical equipment at the McMinnville Division.

Bob always seems to advance in any undertaking. He is not content to remain static. As a machinist he was a tool and die maker. In his present job he is an engineer. As a pilot he was a pilot instructor, and as a fiddler he has made several fiddles, repairs all instruments, made one mandolin, judged at least one contest and has become a very competent fiddler and musician. He is always available to act as MC for District 8 activities and plays on call for the usual functions, such as nursing homes etc. He plays drums every Friday night at the McMinnville Grange with an old time dance band. It was a fortunate day for the OOTFA when Bob decided to take up fiddling again.

ROBERT & DULCIE FAST  
3707 SE CLINTON  
PORTLAND, OR. 97202  
(00145)

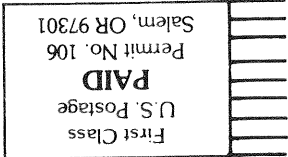
.....  
Address correction requested



Leroy E. (Lee) Jones, Editor  
930 W. Main St  
Sheridan, Ore, 97378

FIRST CLASS

Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association



### FIDDLIN' AFTERNOON

We met as usual at the Senior Center  
With lots of visitors too,  
All the way from Colorado and Madras,  
Prineville and Lebanon too.

Some of us played at the Moose Hall  
And the food was really good  
The music sounded better than usual  
They were in a really good mood.

Now our reporter is recuperating  
From a recent hospital stay  
We don't want her to stay away too long  
We miss her when she's away.

She's our only lady fiddler  
And she can keep up with the best of them,  
Whether its a waltz or a two-step  
Or an old time hymn.

Some of our fiddlers have been away  
They've been out hunting and fishing  
Now maybe we can get down to business  
And they can be off and running

More guests just came in from Lebanon  
Oregon and Washington  
We hope we make them feel welcome  
And they'll come see us again.

I especially like the 5 string banjo  
His style of playing is really neat  
We very seldom get to hear one  
And they are really hard to beat.

Now Harry is doing a bit of dancing  
And there's a lot of toe-tapping too.  
It's hard to keep still sometimes  
The music and rythmn gets to you.

Everyone had a good time  
Regreshmants now are due  
So have some coffee and cookies  
And say "HI" to everyone next to you.

By Thelma Terrill  
District 3