

# The Hoedowner

November, 1996

Volume 4, Issue 11

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON OLD-TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION

Deadline for articles issued 18th of every month.

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## Coming Events

### November

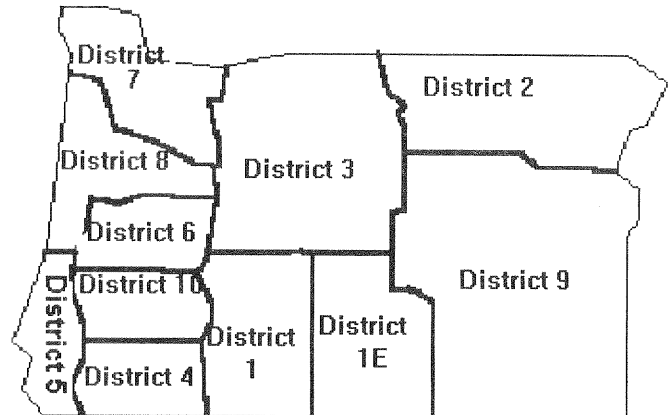
2	Senior Center, 6pm	Canby	7
2	Community Center	Talent	4
3	Comm.Bldg. 1-4pm	Winston	10
9	Jam, Mem. Hall 6:30 P'lck	Lakeview	1E
10	P'lck, Jam 11a-4p	Burns	9
10	Senior C'tr. 1:30-4	Bend	3
10	Mtng, P'lck, jam, Civic Ctr.	Merrill	1
16	Comm. Bldg 11am P'lck	Winston	10
16	M'tng, P'lck, Jam, Driftwood Hall	North Bend	5
17	Meeting, Potluck & Jam	McMinnville	8
17	P'lck, Jam, Sr. Ctr.	Forest Grove	7
23	Jam, Mem. Hall 6:30 P'lck	Lakeview	1E
24	Willamalane Sr. Center	Springfield	6

### December

1	Jam & dance		10
7	Roxie Ann Grange	Medford	4
8	Moose Lodge	Lebanon	6
8	C'mas P'rty, P'lck, Jam, Sr. Ctr.	Beaverton	7
14	Holiday P'lck, jam, Driftwood Hall	North Bend	5
15	Jam	Willamina	8
21	Potluck, Jam, Dance		10

### January

4	Senior Center	Rogue River	4
12	Mid-Winter State Mtg	Springfield	OOTFA
12	Mtng, P'lck, Jam, Sr. Ctr.	Gladstone	7



## The Prez Sez

I thought I would slow down a little bit in October, but that was just wishful thinking. I started out the month as a special guest, playing for the Applegate Wagon Train in Central Point and I want to thank all the musicians I played with and also the crowd for the hospitality and warm reception. Also I'd like to commend the wagon master on the historical event for his precise and well organized itinerary. After 7 weeks on the trail and 500 miles later he missed his E.T.A. at Central Point by a half hour. I recommend that all the airlines have a meeting with this group and find out their secret. If any airline between any cities in the USA today runs within 1 hour of E.T.A. or departure, one would mind flying.

On the 6th we played at the Winston Community Bldg. for jam and dancing. On the 10th we played again at Canyonville for the Applegate Wagon Train.

*(Continued on page 7)*

A Nonprofit Organization Article II: "Purpose - To perpetuate and promote Old-time fiddling and Old-time music. To encourage everyone, especially young people, to play the fiddle and appreciate Old-time Fiddling and Old-time Music. To Provide regular times and places to meet to play this kind of music."

# The Hoedowner

## District 1

Chairman: **Irene Ruddock** (541) 882-6418  
 Co-Chair: **Virgil Schmoe** (541) 884-4051  
 Sec/Treas: **Grace Stork** (541) 884-5313

District 1 had some extra musicians from far and near for the October jam and extra people in the audience to enjoy the afternoon. Tex and Minnie Cox from Shingletown, CA are always a joy to see, also Dave and Doreen Winkleman from District 4. Several new local visitors attended that included Lenora Moore from Klamath Falls and her brother and his wife, Don and Cookie Thurman from Branson, Mo. the three of them entertained us with vocals and specials on guitar, fiddle and banjo. Also it was good to have Johnnie and Darleth Rogers attending again. Some played for the Diabetes Walkfest, a 90th birthday party and other than weekly practice at homes, it has been kinda slow lately in our area.

I don't have any November birthdays on my list. Sorry if someone has been missed. We do wish happy Anniversary to Ray and Minda Turner, November 18th.

Please remember nursing homes, more musicians are always needed. Washburn Way - 3rd Sunday at 2pm. Fourth Thursday Evening, Clairmont Nursing Home at 5:45 and Clairmont Retirement Center at 6:45pm.

The next jam is November 10th. Merrill Civic Center - Doors open at 12 for early jamming as usual. Meeting at 1pm, potluck, then regular program at 2pm. Please bring your choice of soup, green salad, or desert or whatever to go with the soup for the potluck.

Come and join us. Everyone stay well and Happy Fiddlin'.

Cherie Lane Reporter for  
 OOTFA District 1  
 (541) 882-1595

## District 1E

Chairman: **John (Shorty) Stone** (541) 947-3825  
 Co-Chair: **Eric Leffingwell** (541) 947-4982  
 Secretary: **Beverly Perry** (541) 947-2334  
 Treasurer: **Mary Anne McLain** (541) 947-2448

Our September 21st jam included a surprise 60th anniversary celebration for Bud and Ethel Parker, who have been two of our most loyal fans. We presented them with a beautiful cake and card and serenaded them with an anniversary song (of course!!).

Instead of our October 12th jam, we played at a year's end harvest celebration for the M.C. Ranch group at Adel, Oregon.

Our 1E players for this were Homer and Rosalee McLain, Larry and Terry McLain, Bill Myers, Clyde Lynch, Lee Hampton, Derry Welch and Shorty Stone. We had out-of-town guests helping us with this. Jerry and Irene Ruddock of District 1, Klamath Falls were here and also Julia Milleson of District 9, Burns. We send a heartfelt thank you to these folks. We really enjoyed having them with us.

We play October 18th at the Lake County Fairgrounds for a volunteer's appreciation dinner, at 6 o'clock in the evening.

Our next jam is October 26th at the Memorial Hall, a Halloween fun night with costumes and all!

Our business meeting was October 14th with 14 members present. We always hold business meetings on separate dates from our musical get-together.

Hope all of you are well, happy, and enjoying this beautiful fall weather, kinda wedged in between the sunshine and snow flakes.

'Til next Time. God Bless.  
 Mary Stone (541) 947-3825

OOTFA NAME  
 TAGS?

You Bet!!  
 Call Helen Tracy.

You will see her ad  
 elsewhere in this  
 Hoedowner.

They are \$7 mailed.

## District 3

Chairperson: **Sally Jordan (541) 389-9746**  
Co-Chair: **Jack Bloom**  
Sec/Treas: **Ken Jordan (541) 389-9746**

Without a doubt, Autumn/Fall is in the air. The air is cool and crisp, leaves turning color and falling off the trees. I love this time of year. Actually I really look forward to the snow.

Now did everyone have as good of a time as I did at Thousand Trails? Talk about some good music. I had so much fun and enjoyed listening to the music. Everyone was in top form.

We like to welcome a new member to District 3. Bob Brown plays the harmonica and is from Bend. Good to have you among us, and we look forward to playing lots and lots of music with ya.

At our Senior Jam, we had a total of 66 people come out. Good to see everyone's smiling faces. Our next jam at the Senior Center/Bend on 5th and Kearney is November 10 from 1:30pm to 4 pm.

Our Birthdays for November are: Bernice Hanson, 27th; Ches Fullerton, 29th; LeRoy Sims 29th.

Our Anniversary Couples are: Ferril and Joyhn Klingensmith, 9th; Dorothy and George Brumbach, 23rd.

To all our folks who are celebrating a special day, May the Good Lord continue to shine in your path, and may you have an enjoyable day.

Well folks, as the weather begins to turn, please make sure to stay warm and bundled up.

All be well and take care of yourselves.

Signing off....your Reporter  
Ernie Slay (541) 923-8861

## The Hoedowner

## District 4

Chairman: **Joe Levine (541) 582-1069**  
Co-Chair: **Merle Pasley (541) 582-1924**  
Sec/Treas: **Ethel Holstin (541) 479-1621**

Good Day!

The Fireplace is glowing and I have a nice warm sweater on. I woke up shivering! I thought I'd never shiver again after the long hot summer.

The last hot two weeks of summer was not without mishap though! Frank and I now belong to the elite "Some Critter Died Under Our House Club". A ghastly week searching in and under our house and another week mending insulation and siding. The culprit was a huge RIPE possum! Yuck!!

Wagons HOooo! District 4 played for square dancers and entertained at Central Point Expo during the Applegate Frail Festival. Channel 10 TV cameras were there to catch all the excitement commemorating 150 yrs since the Applegate Trail.

Any youngsters or oldster step forward. If you are so inclined to be a "fiddler". Our "loaner" fiddle has returned!

District 4 gave Phoenix Elementary a Halloween treat on October 25th.

Know what? I don't care where we have our jam, lately its been full house everywhere we go to play. Good musicians, good crowd. Hope we see all of you there again. Pass the word!

To all the nameless volunteers in kitchen, sound crew, and greeters, and to Letha & Paula who make ure the program is running smoothly, bless you, you are all good District 4 representatives.

Lets keep prayers for our ailing friends going. Alvy Shoemaker is recovering nicely.

Love Merry Mary Armstrong (541) 479-5974

Remember: Ruth Applegate says: "you can't make anything right by doing the wrong thing worser"!

## OOTFA MEMBERS

**1997 DUES ARE DUE NOW**

**Thanks to all who have already paid. Hope to get renewals from the rest of you as soon as possible. See the renewal form in this issue.**

**Remember to include your +4 number in your ZIP Code. We get a cheaper rate.**

# The Hoedowner

## District 5

Chairman: **Claud Whaley** (541) 888-4430  
 Co-Chair: **Phil Fry** (541) 888-9368  
 Sec/Treas: **Marianne Burns** (541) 888-2655

The Holiday Season is fast approaching and everyone is busy, we hope, but not too busy to join us for our Holiday Potluck and Jam on December 14th at Driftwood Hall in North Bend. Directions are: turn on Virginia Avenue from US 101 North or South and follow the signs to the airport, then UPS, we are directly behind the BORESITEL GUN SHOP. Turn to the right on Airport Lane, (which is on the top of the hill behind the airport). We are on the right-hand side of the street, look for the life sized fiddler on the side of the hall.

A belated Happy 50th Anniversary to Shorty and Charlotte Dow, on 31st of October.

We welcome to District 5, Jana Meszaros of Gold Beach. She is nine years old and was taking lessons from Hanneke 'til she move east to go to school. We hope to meet you in person real soon, Jana. We also welcome Edwina and John Lawson of Port Orford.

It is time to pay our yearly dues, PLEASE send your checks to Lew and Alice Holt, their name and address is on the front of your Hoedowner.

Happy Fiddlin'  
 Reporter - Ruth Whaley (541) 888-4430

These name tags are yellow with blue trim with the OOTFA emblem and district number. The price is \$6.50 each, with an extra .50¢ if you want it mailed. Please send a check to Helen Tracy, made out to her.

151 Lindner Lane, Eugene, OR 97404  
 (503) 688-4085

## District 6

Chairman: **Joy Halliwell** (541) 747-9894  
 Co-Chair: **Joe Moyle** (541) 343-5894  
 Sec/Treas: **Mark Ratzlaff** (541) 485-2175  
 Co:Treas: **Ruth Montgomery**(541) 995-6629

Here we are with Autumn nipping at our heels, and everyone is busy. Many good things are coming up, so keep your date books in order. But, before we get into "fiddlin' business" Let's see who is going to have a birthday in November. They are: Marie Roberts, 2nd; Vivian Steele, 7th; Barbara Gunn, 8th; Pem Winquist, 10th; Ron Wykoff, 17th; Roy "Tip" Delp, 19th; Ray Mitchell, 22nd; Bertha La Coursiere, 24th; Lelah Trobough, 26th; Renee Dickson, 27th; Jay Sykes, 29th; and Mary Crockett, 30th. Joyce Keech celebrated her 80th birthday with an open house recently. We sincerely hope she had a good time.

November Anniversaries are: Ken and Rozanne Spann, 10th; Robert and Juanita Patterson, 13th; Cal and Ruth Montgomery, 14th; Harve and Linda Harvey, 15th; John and Helene Madsen, 15th; Jack and Mary Crockett, 24th; Ken and Joy Halliwell, 24th; Howard and Lois Gabel, 27th.

We had a good potluck and jam on October 6th at Willamalane Senior Center in Springfield. It was great to have Dennis and Thelma Allen visit and help with the program. We also had our welcome visitor, Stan Klebba, from Utah Old-time Fiddlers Association again. He does some good banjo playing and also harmonica.

As of this writing we haven't yet had our extra October jam at the Morningstar Grange Hall, north of Albany on October 20th. So I am guessing that we had a good time - didn't we! We may have more hams there in the future, so keep careful track of forthcoming news.

Our Thanksgiving jam will be held at the Willamalane Senior Center in Springfield on November 24th. Turkey, potatoes, gravy and dressing will be furnished. Please bring salads, vegetables and desserts for dinner. (Wow! I'm hungry already!) Let's have a good turnout and lots of music, dancing

(Continued on page 7)

### ADDRESS CHANGES

Thanks to those of you who let us know your new addresses when you're moving.

The Post Office lets us know your new address, BUT it also costs us 50 cents



Your Name  
 Here



## District 7

Chairman: **Joy Smith** (503) 829-5234  
Co-Chair: **Ida Colby** (503) 557-8709  
Sec/Treas: **Susy Spencer** (503) 524-4563

Looks like the fall rains are setting in and the grass is greening. Time to renew our thoughts of good friends, fellowship and fiddling.

Also it's time to think of renewing our OOTFA membership, due by 12/31/96. Still a bargain for \$15 per family. Renewal forms are available at any jam or from our state membership chairperson Lew and Alice Holt. Please remember to state your 4-digit mailing code after your zip-code to facilitate more economical mailing of your Hoedowner.

Joy Smith wishes to thank those who participated in two September, October events, the Mt. View Rendezvous on 9/20 and 10/10 and the Molalla Apple Fest on 10/12. Thanks to those who led out, Chuck Gates and Cactus Finley respectively.

Now let's remember and support the Sunnyside Grange Open House event on November 2nd beginning at 2pm. to get there, go east on Sunnyside Road from I-205. The grange is approximately 1 1/2 to 2 miles on the right.

Our Canby jam on the first Saturday night of each month hasn't been as well attended by the community as we had hoped, so we will be discontinuing it at the end of the year. It is a good opportunity to fellowship and jam with other Fiddlers, so do play to attend on November 2nd and 7th from 6 - 10pm at the Canby Senior Center on Ivy St.

It's not too soon to be thinking about our Christmas Party scheduled for December 8th at the Beaverton Senior Center. Meat, potatoes, dressing and gravy are furnished by the district. Other food is provided by potluck as usual.

*(Continued on page 7)*

## The Hoedowner

## District 8

Chairman: **Lew Holt** (503) 391-5377  
Co-Chair: **Johnny Leigh** (503) 472-8518  
Sec/Treas: **Faythe Maahs** (503) 472-7032

Autumn greetings to all. The trees are turning red and gold. maybe not as spectacular as New England, but nice.

What a great time we had at Newport! Even if it does "always rain at the coast!" We had a good turnout of musicians from several districts. We thank you one and all for coming. The Elks audience was good sized and seemed to enjoy the music. Several commented that it stirred up old memories from childhood. By the way- they want us back for next year. Besides having a good time, it always helps the bank account. Thank You to all who came!

Congratulations to Lew and Jean Standiford for their 50th anniversary! They had a very nice get-together with lots of fiddle music.

Our Thanksgiving potluck and jam will be at the Senior Center in McMinnville on Sunday, November 17th. The hall will be open about 10am, Lew announces that we will have a short meeting at 11pm, the potluck at 12noon and the jam to begin at 1pm. Sounds like a busy, fun day. The turkey, potatoes and gravy are furnished. Now it is up to you to bring the rest. Remember--if you are traveling through McMinnville north on the main highway--after you have gone through the business district and start to go out of town, there will be a McDonalds on the left (north side of the highway), right there you turn right (South) onto McDaniel St., and the Senior Center is a couple of blocks on the left (east).

We would be glad to have you there--and you-and you-and you...Y'll come!

Looking even further into the future - Sunday, December 15th, we will be at the VFW Hall in Willamina for our Christmas dinner and jam. Hopefully, we will be in Newberg for January.

Be happy and keep fiddlin'  
Alice Holt, Reporter (503) 391-5377

OOTFA New  
Membership is  
pro-rated for  
November.

Two months @  
\$1.25 = \$2.50 +  
15.00 for 1997 =  
\$17.50.

## **The Hoedowner District 9**

Chairman: **Carl Cross (541) 573-7821**  
Co-Chair: **Walt Cooper (541) 573-3417**  
Sec/Treas: **George Sahlberg (541) 573-6517**

Would you believe it? Another month almost slipped by and my wife reminded me that it was the 18th of the month already. So here goes! First of all I want to say "Thank You" to the folks who sent me get well cards. It was great hearing from all of you. Enough of that!

We held our first potluck and jam after the summer break. Attendance was down, but we had a good time. Those that played were: Walt Cooper, Julia Mille-son, Ruel Teague, Joan Suther, Darrel Smith, Lloyd Louie, Janet Burgess, Edie Koenig, and Carl Cross. I hope I didn't leave anyone out!

Some of the musicians played at the nursing home. They built an assisted living home here called "The Aspens". We have started playing there once a month now. We have played there twice now. I neglected to put in my report before (sorry). Now for some reporter ramblings!

I've been thinking, (some would be saying "thinking, Him?") Where would your young fiddle players be without a teacher? (Pass it on.) Three little words that say so much. We in the OOTFA practice this in all we do in Old-Time music. (We pass it on.) "Everywhere I go, I see someone passing it on. If a novice player has a question, someone in the group has an answer for them, or some of the folks didn't quite get how a chord progression went, everyone is ready to show or tell them. (pass it on) without that spirit of helping one another we would be lost. Remember "pass it on"!!

Potluck and Jam, November 10 -- 1 to 4pm.  
Burns Nursing Home - November 11th 7 - 8pm.  
Aspens House -- TBA

Carl Cross, Reporter  
PO Bx 823, Hines, Or 97738-0823

## **District 10**

Chairman: **Bob Hanson (541) 672-6929**  
Co-Chair: **Jo Barnes (541) 459-4522**  
Sec/Treas: **Gynn Deaton (541) 839-4501**  
Co-Sec: **Leah Shroll (541) 459-5474**

Happy November Birthdays to: Fred Young, Clement Berlier, John Whaley, Marlies Carr, Cecelia Jalo, Clifford Larson and Larry Swan.

Happy November Anniversaries to: Bob and Jean Hanson, Dick and Leah Shroll and Bill and Ella Connor.

Happy Belated Birthdays in October to Sally Christian, Opal Rust, Ray Pickens, Dick Shroll, Carolyn Lee and Robert Swan.

Happy Belated Anniversaries to Alvin and Alma Greer and George & Peggy Krohn.

Thanks to Louie Roy for writing the District 10 news for the Hoedowner.

I'm just forgetful. Just can't travel and think about the Old Time Fiddlers, but we do. Thank you again.

Bob and I will be on the road to California and Utha. Jo Barnes, the Co-chairman will take care of the meeting. Thanks Jo.

The November playing dates:  
Our meeting will be on the 16th of November at the Community Building in Winston at 11 o'clock to 4 o'clock. Thanksgiving potluck with turkey & ham at noon. Jam and dance from 1 - 4. District 10 will furnish the meat.

Note: ALL District 10 members. We will be jamming and dancing at the Community Building in Winston on November 3rd from 1 - 4.

December Playing Dates:  
1st Jam and Dance; Meeting the 21st, potluck at noon, Jam & dance from 1

-4.

Ida Johnson, we are sorry to hear you are having health problems. We wish you the best. Dick Shroll was back in the hospital with pneumonia. We wish you the best and speedy recovery. Reporter, Jean Hanson (541) 672-6929

**OOTFA was formed in 1965, and was chartered with 21 members.**

**In 1967 it was incorporated as a non-profit organization.**

## District 6 cont.

(Continued from page 4)

and visiting. You all come, you hear?

Small groups of fiddlers are still busy playing for nursing and retirement homes, lodges and special events. Every Saturday, some musicians meet at "The Barn" on Dorris Ranch on South Second in Springfield for an informal jam from noon to 2pm. All are welcome.

There is more need for small groups to play at different events, and nursing homes. You might join one or even better yet, invite others to join you. Tell a board member that you're ready to play!

Thelma Sez: Success doesn't always bring happiness, happiness brings success.

Your Reporter, Thelma Shephard.  
(541) 726-0419

## District 6 cont.

(Continued from page 5)

Our next jam and potluck will be held at the Forest Grove Senior Center at 2037 Douglas St. on November 7th. Take Hwy 8 through Beaverton and Hillsboro. As you get toward Forest Grove, there will be 1-way, then 2-way and then 1-way again. From that point, go 5 or 6 blocks to Douglas St. The center is on the right.

Y'all stay dry and warm and we'll be seeing you out there somewhere this month.

Think Happy thoughts and keep smilin'!

## The Hoedowner

### The Priz Szeout.

(Continued from page 1)

We played many more times during the month.

At Thousand Trails State Quarterly meeting on Sep 14th, all districts were represented except #2 which I understand is not active. All districts gave a good activity report and all are financially sound. There were some changes made in the standing rules and contest rules and I will list hem so all members will be aware that these changes were made. Stand rule V (5) was abolished in its entirety and rewritten to read:

To recall a state officer of the Oregon Old Time Fiddler's Association (OOTFA) 50% of all members in each district must sign a petition requesting recall and this petition will be presented to the executive board for final action.

To recall a district officer of the OOTFA, 51% of all members in this district must sign a petition requesting recall and this petition will be presented to the executive board for final action.

Under Rule XIV (14) Official Contest Rule M - general contest rule Item E was abolished and will not be in the future contest rules. This rule eliminated to many hard working members at our State Fiddle Contest. Also under Rule XIV, Rule M, Rule # 11, a motion made and passed unanimously that 5 judges will be selected not more than two from Oregon (exceptions illness & emergency) at the State Fiddle Contest in Corvallis. There will be no Sunday gospel Show due to economics. (At Lebanon, the OOTFA we were paid to put on this show, but at Corvallis we have to rent a hall for \$600.)

Another item that was discussed was to move the State Convention out of Roseburg to another location Starting in 1998. In 1998, the fees at the fairgrounds will be raised \$75.00 a day on each building making an increase of \$300 for the 4 days. Everything else will remain the same. Lew Holt was appointed to do some research and report back to the executive board at our Jan 12, 1997 meeting at Springfield.

Jack Kerr our Senior Vice-President is under the weather and is undergoing some medical tests to determine the cause and severity of the problem. Jack, we all wish you the best and we know we will see you and Peggy at the mid-winter quarterly meeting in Springfield on January 12th full of pep and vinegar. We will be expecting to listen to your excellent voice when you entertain.

The State Mid-Winter Quarterly Meeting will be January 12th at the Willamalane Sr. Center in Springfield. I've asked Joy to arrange to have the doors open at 8 am for anyone who arrives early. I also instructed Myrtle Arnold to reimburse District #6 of any additional money to have this done.

Keep making music! Louie Roy

*We're Keyed*

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## The Hoedowner

### NOTES FROM YOUR EDITOR



I TALKED WITH ROZANNE SPANN THE OTHER DAY. WHAT A SPUNKY LADY. SHE ASKED ME TO TELL YOU ALL 'THANK YOU' AGAIN FOR ALL THE CARE AND CONCERN FOR HER. YOU SEE, SHE NOT ONLY SMASHED SOME FINGERS AND HAD THEM REATTACHED TO HER LEFT HAND, BUT SHE HAS HAD AN ATTACK OF BELLS PALSEY. THIS HAS LEFT SOME PARALYSIS, ALSO ON HER LEFT SIDE. SHE SAYS "I'M NOT GIVING UP THE FIDDLE YET!" FRIENDS, IF YOU'VE EVER HAD A REASON TO CHANGE FROM BEING A RIGHT HANDED FIDDLER TO A LEFT HANDED OR VISA VERSA, WHY DON'T YOU CALL ROZANNE AND ENCOURAGE HER TO KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON!

"PROMISE TO YOURSELF"  
BY RUSS HOFFMAN

- 1 THAT YOU WILL PRESERVE AND PERPETUATE OLD-TIME FIDDLING AND OLD-TIME MUSIC.
- 2 TO THINK ONLY OF THE BEST, TO WORK ONLY FOR THE BEST AND TO EXPECT ONLY THE BEST.
- 3 TO BE AS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF OTHERS AS YOU ARE ABOUT YOUR OWN SUCCESS.
- 4 TO BE WILLING TO HELP FELLOW MUSICIANS BY SHARING TUNES, TECHNIQUES AND INSTRUCTION THAT WILL IMPROVE THE MUSICIANS ABILITIES.
- 5 TO LOOK AT THE SUNNYSIDE OF EVERYTHING AND MAKE YOUR OPTIMISM COME TRUE.
- 6 TO BE WILLING TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE ASSOCIATIONS AND CARRY THEM OUT TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY.
- 7 TO MAKE NON-MUSICIANS MEMBERS FEEL THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO GIVE TO THE ORGANIZATION EVEN THOUGH THEY DO NOT PLAY MUSIC.
- 8 TO BRING AUTHENTIC OLD-TIME MUSIC TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND TO THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE MEANS OF PARTICIPATING.
- 9 TO DO YOUR BEST TO MAKE EVERY FIDDLE GET-TOGETHER AS ENJOYABLE AND FREE FROM CONTROVERSY AS POSSIBLE.
- 10 TO HELP MAINTAIN A "MUTUAL ADMIRATION" ATTITUDE FOR ALL MEMBERS.

WISH I COULD CLAIM THE "PROMISE" , BUT IT CONTAINS ALL THE THINGS THAT I OFTEN WRITE ABOUT IN MY COLUMN. PLEASE READ IT OFTEN AND CLAIM IT FOR YOUR OWN DISTRICT.

AJOY

## ATTENTION FIDDLERS

Swing Workshop by Penny Mead on December 7th and 8th from 9am - 4pm each day. The workshop will be held at my home in Sandy. The cost is \$25 for both days and includes tape and materials. If you have a self-contained RV come and camp-out for the week-end. The workshop will be limited to 20 people. So call (503) 668-8900 and reserve your seat!!

Starr McMullen will be teaching a beginning to intermediate progressive style fiddle workshop of Hoedowns and Rags at her home in Corvallis. The date of the workshop will be in January or February. Date will be confirmed in the November Hoedowner.

Chad Terrusa, Scholarship Chairman.

### Prayer Request

Talked to Peggy Kerr this week. She reported that Jack is going into the hospital at Prineville on Monday, the 28th of October for surgery. They are going to remove the bottom portion of the left lung due to a malignant tumor. He will be in the hospital 2 weeks. Your prayers and thoughts will be appreciated in his behalf. She said that we are looking forward to this being over and Jack is anxious to get back to playing and singing.



### DULCIMER OR DULCIMER

When you hear the word Dulcimer, what comes to mind?

I'll bet in District 9, Janet thinks about a trapezoid shaped instrument with some 46 strings or more resting on a stand waiting to be played with small wooden hammers. She's right.

Here in District 1E, I immediately think of a fretted stringed instrument, tear drop or hour glass shaped with 4 strings more or less. An instrument usually played sitting with the Dulcimer held on the lap. Sometimes played standing and once in awhile being bowed. I'm right.

Why is the name Dulcimer given to 2 completely unrelated instruments? those of you fortunate enough to hear the "Sweet Song" from these 2 instruments may have some ideas. When translated Dulcimer comes from the Greek "Dulce" or sweet and the Latin "melos", or song.

Now for a tiny bit of history about Dulcimers.

We'll start with the Hammered, sometimes referred to as a Hammer Dulcimer. It comes from one of the earliest musical instrument families. to give an idea of the dulcimers great antiquity, it is pictured in the ruins of Ninevah, an ancient biblical city, which dates to the 7th century B.C.

Dulcimers were not uncommon in early America. One is mentioned in the log of sailing ship bound for Jamestown in 1609. The instrument was a favorite of Henry Ford who included it in his famous "Henry Fords Old Fashioned Dance Orchestra".

Hammered dulcimers were manufactured in several New York factories in the mid-1800's and were sold by traveling salesmen. they were also available mail-order from Sears & Roebuck and Montgomery Ward. My copy of a 1902 Sears catalog does not list a dulcimer, however their most expensive model of an Auto-Harp sold for \$10.85. The dulcimer was a favorite of loggers in the North-western states where it acquired the name "Lumberjack Piano".

The hammered dulcimer is widely distributed throughout the world and has many names. The Santur of Persia (Iran), Cymbalom of Hungary and Rumania, the Arabian Qanun and the Greek Santouri. China calls it a Yang-Chin.

I'm sure that when Janet plays the dulcimer, you'll hear the "Sweet Song".

Now for a quick look at the Appalachian or

Mountain Dulcimer, Sometimes called a fretted zither, also known as a "Hog Fiddle".

The dulcimer's first traceable European ancestor is the German Scheitholt whose first written description appeared in 1618. It was described as a small monochord provided at one end with a peg box possessing 3 or 4 strings, all tuned to the same note except for the last string which was tuned an octave higher. The instrument was strummed with the thumb crossing all of the strings. the Scheitholt gradually found it's way to neighboring countries where design changes were made to conform to the local musical culture.

The Vosges mountains of France was one of the first places the Scheitholt was found outside of Germany. It became known as the Epinette des Vosges. Sometime later it traveled to Scandinavia. It first appeared in Sweden and was named the Humle. There it took on various shapes. The Swedes added iron tuning pins, a distinctive fret board and an elaborate scroll.

Some years later the Humle appeared in Norway, where it was called the Langeleik.

From Norway we move on to Iceland and a transformation to an instrument named the Langspil.

Wherever the Scheitholt traveled, it was adapted to the existing musical culture.

The Southern Appalachians were America's first western frontier. It was here that the Dulcimer as we know it today evolved. Many early Dulcimers took on various shapes resulting from the few crude tools that were available for construction.

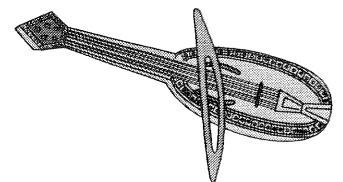
Most of today's Dulcimers are teardrop or hour-glass in shape. It is unique among musical instruments with its diatonic fretboard and simple tunings. A common tuning to the key of C would be GGGC.

The melody being played on GG and the GC used as drones, giving a bagpipe effect.

I play the Dulcimer and hopefully before too long, I can learn to play the Dulcimer.

My thanks to Joy for allowing me the opportunity to sound off.  
Eric Leffingwell.

**References:** Hammered Dulcimer Handbook - Kendra Ward-Bence. The Appalachian Dulcimer Book - Michael Murphy. The Story of the Dulcimer - Ralph Lee Smith.



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