President Bob Ervin 6189 NE Wainwright Rd Prineville, OR 97754-8621 541-447-5451

Vice- Pres. Irene Ruddock 2251 Pine Grove Rd Klamath Falls, OR 97603 541-882-6418

Sec/Treasurer Sharon Gallagher 2030 King Lane Myrtle Point, OR 97458 541-572-2742

Editor Lew Holt 1625 19th St. N.E. Salem, OR 97303 503-391-5377

Membership Myrtle Arnold 4508 N.E. Ainsworth Portland, OR 97218 503 284-1208

Contest Starr McMullen 866 N.E. Thousand Oaks Dr Corvallis, OR 97330 541-745-5130

Bob Ervin (ptranch@prinetime.net), Irene Ruddock (irene@cvc.net), Sharon Gallagher gallee@peoplepc.com, Lew (lewholt@aol.com), Myrtle Arnold (red.pdx1@juno.com) Starr McMullen (mcmulles@hotmail.com)

2005

Jan.

- 2 VFW Redmond 3
- 8 Bellevue Grange Ashland 4
- 8 Willamalane Senior Center Springfield 7/OOTFA
- 9 Grange Shasta 1
- 9 Senior Center Gladstone 7
- 15 Grange Winchester Bay 5
- 15 Senior Center McMinnville 8

Feb.

5 Open Contest Gaston

13 Adult Center Canby 7

19 Senior Center McMinnville 8

March

13 Adult Center Lake Oswego 7

April

8–9State Convention OOTFA

May

20 - 21 Contest Salem OOTFA

July 28 - Aug. 1 Diamond Lake Campout

Aug

August 18 – 21 Winchester Bay Campout

District 1

Chairperson - Virgil Schmoe 541-273-7260 Co-chairman: Faye Patterson 541-798-5973

Don Fitzgerald 541-850-3146 Sec/Treasurer: Membership Grace Stork 541-884-5313

6909 Tingley Lane, Klamath Falls, 97601

Happy New Year Everyone!

Hope your holidays were wonderful, and that Santa was good to you this year.

At our December Jam & Dance we welcomed several visitors: Lisa Pratt on guitar (just checking us out), Mark Webb (a friend of Walter's from Dorris, CA), and first-timers Bruno and Daisy.

Our Christmas dinner and monthly meeting was almost an overload of people (a great problem to have!). We welcomed visitors Larry, Terry and Sherlyn McLain, Mary Anne, Billie and Rayann, along with Michelle Clements and Jessica. Thank you to everyone who helped put the great decorations together and make our meeting time a very festive and joyous occasion.

We send get well wishes out to Frances Hughes – hope all goes well and you feel better soon.

The January 2005 schedule is fairly simple. Our membership meeting at Villa West on the 2nd from noon to 4pm, the Jam and Dance at Shasta View Community Hall on the 9th from 1pm to 4pm. We are not doing Chiloquin in January, but depending on the weather, we will attempt to restart it again on February 27th. However, our annual trip to Chemult to play for the Dog Sled Races will be January 15th starting at 3pm, and playing for their dinner.

Our new microphones sound wonderful. Thanks to Ben Coker for helping to research and actually purchase them for us.

January Birthday wishes go to: John Rodgers (3rd), Phil Fry and Al Nelson (5th), Frances Hughes (9th), Thelma Nelson (13th) and Jo Harris (19th). And Happy 65th Anniversary to Grace and Lewis Stork on the 15th! Wow – that's the kind of longevity you hear about on Paul Harvey – Congratulations!

Bye for now – and be easy on yourself regarding those New Year's Resolutions! Just resolve to play more music and visit with your friends in the Old Time Fiddlers!

From your friendly field reporter for District #1 – Fran Coker

District 1E

Chairman: Rosa Lee McLain 541-947-2903 Co-Chair: Larry McLain 541-947-2448 Sec/Treas.: Sharilyn McLain 541-947-4623

Membership: Bev Perry

628 North I St.

Lakeview, OR 97630

Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Feliz Navidad, Season's Greetings, and Joyeux Noel, Hope I got everybody covered.

We've got a slow period coming up (we think). By the time you read this, we'll have done our holiday party at Terry and Sharilyn McLain's brand new house, and no new gigs are lined up in January. The standing gigs at the Senior Center in Lakeview and the Lake District Nursing Home are still in effect though, so we're still happily plugging along. Senior Center dates are: Jan. 7,14,21,and 28 from 10:30 a.m. till noon. Long Term Care Facility dates are Jan. 4 and 25 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Our next jam is Jan. 1 of 2005 at the Memorial Hall in beautiful downtown Lakeview at 1 o'clock and our next business meeting is at the Senior Center, in Lakeview as well.

Thank you, thank you, to Jerry and Irene Ruddock for coming over to Lakeview from Klamath Falls to help us out with our Holiday Fair gig Dec. 11 They were there before any of 1E even showed up!! Talk about dedicated fiddlers!

We're considering a change of venue for our monthly jams. We've almost sealed a deal with the fairgrounds to use one of their buildings. A time change is possible as well, but we'll let you know for sure by the next newsletter.

There's no birthdays on the horizon, and everyone is relatively healthy(Bev Perry is healing from her surgery, but doing well). Well ladies and gents, gotta end with a joke, right? Something we can all relate to........A young child says to his mother, "Ma, when I grow up I want to be a fiddler" She replies, "Son, you can't have it both ways."

Oh yes, and Happy Kwanzaa!

Eileen McLain, reporter, District 1E

District 3

Chairman: Dale Anderson 541–382–9094 Co-Chair: Art Bigelow 541–312–3017 Sec/Treas/Membership: Earlene Ervin 6189 N.E. Wainwright Road Prineville, OR 97754 541–447–5451

Welcome to another year of Old Time Fiddler's Music. Hope the weather isn't too bad for everyone.

Our last VFW Show was December 5th another great turnout with lots of: Dancing, laughter, music, and good food by the VFW.

New Members: Paul and Doris Kirk Bend Jack and Dianne Pioch Prineville

Our Christmas Party was at Pine Forest December 11th good turnout. With lots of, food, laughter, great music. Bob Erwin was Santa Claus for the children.

Please don't send your membership dues to the State Treasure. Please send them to your District Treasure Earlene Erwin.

Art and Rhea Bigelow is having another Potluck, Jam session at their home January 15th. Starting at 1:00 p.m and eating at 4:00 p.m. Come and join the fun.

District # 3 Dates to Remember: January 2nd-VFW Show-Redmond. January 11th-Library 7-9-Redmond. January 15th-Art and Rhea-Bend.

May God Bless those who lost love ones and those who are sick. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all this month. May you keep Old Time Fiddle Music in your hearts.

Rhea Bigelow, District 3 Reporter

District 4

Chairman: Lee Ferguson 541-772-6462 Co Chair: Scott Phillips 541-899-7139 Sec/treas/ Judy Lyons: 541-056-0618 Membership: Marcia Zellman: 541-899-7677

Attn: Membership 408 S. Oakdale Medford, OR 97501

By the time we read this it will be a whole new year, with the holiday season just a wonderful memory! At our December jam at Roxy Ann Grange in Medford, the usual storm with snow failed to materialize, so our wonderful "feast" and jam lasted till 4 pm, with many musicians, dancers, and foot-tappers staying till the very end. It seems the jams just get better and better, with a great turnout every month! Visitors included Shannon Bagley, a friend of Mary Armstrong, Judy McMillan, new in the area, and Bea and Arnold Essler from Canada, friends of Tommy Grissom. Dale and Loita Colebank from Woodburn joined us, and what fun to have them contribute such good music! A special "Certificate of Appreciation" from District 4 was presented to Tommy Grissom for his many years of singing, playing, and accompanying, supporting our music. Well deserved, too! Tommy is unable to come out to the gigs now because of health problems, but has a monthly jam of Dist. 4 musicians at his residence for his fellow residents.

At the meeting a request for volunteers for the nominating committee for next year was expressed. Another portable sound system was purchased, and was put to use at the jam. Sounded good! "Snuffy" Haas from Medford Stamp donated two "contribution" signs to use at the door at our jams. Thanx! Pat Manion's ankle is still healing – we hope to see him out soon!

We are still doing a lot of playing in both Jackson and Josephine counties. A special event was playing for a Thanksgiving Dinner for the homeless, prepared by the Central Point Presbyterian Church at the St. Vincent de Paul shelter. Many folks enjoyed the free dinner, and gave us special thanks for the music. We were even featured on TV! Our gig schedule continues to be on the website at http://halfspeedmusic.hypermart.net/OotfaD4.htm Can you come out and play? We had 163 community service hours in November! About a dozen fiddlers from the "5 O'clock Jammers"played in the church orchestra for the "Feast of Carols" at the

Medford First United Church where we meet. One wiseacre dubbed us OOMPA (Only Organized Methodist Philharmonic Assembly)! Lots of wonderful Christmas music!

Note that there is a change in the date for the January jam because of the holiday. Bellview Grange is on Tolman Creek Road in Ashland.

Wishing you all the best for the new year. May your hair, your teeth, your face-lift, your abs, and your stocks not fall; and may your blood pressure, your triglycerides, your cholesterol, your white blood count and your mortgage interest not rise

Happy '05!!.

Judy McGarvey, Reporter District 4

District 5

Chairman: Larry Gallagher (541) 572-2742 Co-Chair: Hal Weiner (541) 902-2371

Secretary/Treasurer: Kathy Nash (541) 902-1981

Membership: Sally Jordan (541) 902-9240

138 43rd Way, Florence, OR 97439

Happy New Year!!!!

We trust that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and are ready for another year of music and friendship.

The District was busy this past month playing at the Lakeside Lions Club, Greentrees, The Florence Friendship Club, the Suislaw Pioneer Museum and the Pony Village Mall as well as the usual nursing homes. Thanks to all of the musicians who turned out to play.

At our meeting in Winchester Bay in November it was decided to have our next meeting and jam at the Winchester Bay Grange on January 15th, 2005. Our meeting will start at 11:30am and will be followed by a potluck at 12:00 and a jam at 1:00pm. We will be discussing where we will have our jams and business meetings during 2005. This is an IMPORTANT meeting. Please plan to attend.

Now that the New Year is started it is not to early to think about making reservations for the Winchester Bay campout (8/15-21) if you want to get a site with hook-ups at Marina RV Resort: \$25-\$32 per night full hook up. (541)271-0287. Reservations open Jan 1, 2005. (This is across the marina from the Grange where we will be playing. About 0.8 mile). Also Windy Cove B County Park has full hook up sites for \$18 per night - (541) 957-7001 (about .9 mile from the Grange). As we did last year we will have a group dry camping area available. Costs for dry camping will again only be \$8 per day. More information will be provided in another Hoedowner.

Our nursing home play dates for January-March are as follows: 1st Tuesday, Elderberry, Florence 2:00 - 4:00; 1st Wed. Coquille, Oerding Manor 1:20 - 2:20; Myrtle Point Care Center 3:00 - 4:00; 2nd Wed. North Bend, Inland Point 11:00 - 12:00; Ocean Crest 1:30 - 2:30; 2nd Friday, North Bend, Bay Crest Village 2:00 - 3:00; 3rd Wed. Bandon, Heritage Place 1:00 - 2:00; Harmony Estates 3:00 - 4:00; 4th Wed. Coos Bay, Nancy Devereux Center 1:00 - 2:00; Life Care 2:00 - 3:00;

Please make a copy and put in your calendars. In order to conserve space we will only publish this list quarterly.

Our prayers and get well wishes go out to all of our members who are ill.

Hal Weiner, Reporter, District 5

District 6

Chairman: Joe Moyle 541-343-5894 Co-chair: Bob Strelow 541-782-4803 Sec./Treas. Bernie Roberts 541-689-5764 Membership: Mark Ratzlaff, 25701 Cochran Ct.

Veneta, OR 97487 541-935-8506

The December jam at the Lebanon Moose Lodge was a great success, as usual. This is our 26th year of jamming there! The Lodge served a very fine lunch to the Fiddlers, and Santa made a brief appearance to kick off the holiday season and pass out candy canes. Oral Robbins was curiously absent during Santa's visit—coincidence or conspiracy? You decide. We will again jam at the Moose Lodge on May 1st 2005.

Our next jam will be at the Willamalane Senior Center is Springfield on Saturday January 8th, when we will host the State quarterly meeting. Doors open at 9 AM, the meeting starts at 10, potluck at noon, and jam to follow. Please don't hesitate to help us set up chairs and tables.

From 1-5, take the I-105 connector exit to Springfield (194A if southbound), and get off at the first Springfield exit (City Center), turning right at the light onto Pioneer Parkway. Follow Pioneer Parkway to "C" Street and right to Willamalane Senior Center. Coming in from Eugene on Franklin Blvd — cross over the bridge into Springfield, turn left on Mill St., take a left on C Street to Senior Center.

The jam at Crow Grange on February 19th will be an occasion for election of a new District board. Joe Moyle will be completing his second term as Chair, so that position will be open. If you are interested in serving in any capacity on the Board, please let Joe know. Our March jam will also be at Crow on Saturday, March 19th, and no jam is scheduled for April as that is Convention time.

Red Herndon reports that Joyce is making good progress in her recovery, as is Lloyd Shriber (we missed you at Lebanon, Lloyd and Esther!) Martha Greene is also making

a good recovery from recent surgery. Our sympathies to Rick and Sherry Dobson on the loss of their beloved dog Samantha.

Do you know members who did not receive a January Hoedowner? You might tell them it is because they failed to renew their membership. A \$15 check made to OOTFA and sent to me will correct that!

Happy birthday to: Joe Moyle, 1/1; Evelyn Fackler, 1/12; Martha Greene, 1/14; Alan Ede, 1/16; Zane Coffin, 1/18; John Childers, 1/22; Ken White, 1/22; and Leah Canaday, 1/26.

Mark Ratzlaff, District 6 Reporter

District 7

Chairman: Jim Kuether 503-663-3634

Co-Chairs: Dick and Donna Foreman 503-630-3577

Sec/Treas: Barbara Petrin 503-639-1688

Membership: Myrtle Arnold 4508 N.E. Ainsworth St. Portland, OR 97218 503-284-1208

Greetings from District 7

Everyone's busy getting ready for the holidays. We had lots of fun and fiddlin' at North's Chuck Wagon holiday party. Nothing goes together better than fiddling, food, and friends.

Here's the line up so far for the new year: Sunday January 9, 2005 we will start the New Year with our monthly OOTFA jam at the Gladstone Senior Center at 1050 Portland Avenue in Gladstone from 10:30 to 4.

Wednesday January 19 from 2:30 - 3:30 we'll play at Miramont Point at 11520 SE Sunnyside Road in Clackamas.

Wednesday January 26, 2005 from 5 - 6 p.m. we are needed to play at the birthday celebration at Laurelhurst House at 15 SE 55th Avenue in Portland.

Saturday February 12, 2005 is the celebration of the City of Gresham's 100th Anniversary. We will be scheduled to play for two hours but we don't know where or what time yet.

Sunday February 13, 2005 is our regular monthly jam session at the Canby Adult Center at 1250 S. Ivy Street in Canby from 10:30 until 4 p.m.

Gail Foster, Reporter, District 7

District 8

Chairman: Marie Bailey 503-835-7185

Co-Chair: Ray Cunningham 503 763-8848

Sec/Treas/ Chris Lang 503-982-6224 Membership: Jackie Stephenson 567 Leasure St. Woodburn, OR 97071

Isn't it amazing that it's already 2005! We hope it's a good year for all of our fiddle friends. May you have good health, good friends and good music!

Saturday, December 18th was a lovely sunny day for our jam. We had 27 signed up for the jam at the McMinnville Senior Center. We welcomed a number of district 7 friends: Eileen Witler, Joe Hamm, Jeff Walter, Pat and Chuck Gates. Helen Washburn and Joyce Lovgren, associate members, also came. While some of the dancers were absent, we still had a appreciative audience. It was one of those jams that makes you extra proud to be a member of OOTFA.

Don and Daisy Simons have moved. Their new address is: Southgate Drive, Monmouth, OR 97361 Phone: 503-838-0953. They would enjoy hearing from friends.

It was good to have Christine Lang back with us after being out for surgery. She's doing fine. It was nice, too, to have Nischa Roman from Independence, there, too, for the first time. She said that she enjoyed our fiddle music. Thanks, Nischa.

The OOTFA state quarterly meeting is scheduled at Springfield on January 8th. It's a good chance to visit with friends from around the state.

District 8s regular jam will be at McMinnville again, on Saturday January 15th. The signup jam is from 1 to 4 pm. The doors are open earlier, about 10 am. Come and join us if you can. Bring a brown bag lunch. Coffee and tea are furnished by the district.

Here's a quote I like. 'Wealth, I was discovering, is more accurately measured in what you enjoy than in what you possess.' -----Jean Aspen

Alice Holt, reporter

District O

District 9

Chairperson: Julia Milleson 541-573-2206 Co-Chairman: Lloyd Louie 541-573-7862 Secretary/treasurer/membership:

Rose Johnson 541–573–6237

The holiday party and jam at the senior center turned out to be a super event. Our hats off to Rose Robirts who stepped in at the last minute to roast the turkey. Her

grandson Tyler Schmidt and his girlfriend Jennie were guests for the afternoon as well as Joan Suthers mother-in-law Freda Vetter who has moved here from New York. Guest musicians were Vance Bonner (Dist.3) and Betty Chapman (Dist.1E) We really appreciate the out-of-town players. Vance and Janet Braymans brother Mike from Baker City have been guests at some of the Friday night jams. Other musicians playing along with the regulars were Walt Cooper's son Casey and Ron Juans a newcomer to the area. Thad Geer (mandolin and harmonica) surprised us by coming to take part in a program instead of a regular jam. He brought along his Saxophone and when the jam was nearly over he started playing some old-time dance tunes and the jam continued an extra hour until scrooge (Julia) had to lock up the center.

Andrew Dunderdale has finished the CD"s of our October show. They are \$8.00 for the set of two. Call him at 1-541-493-2050 if you wish to buy CD's or tapes.

To start off the new year we will play Aspens the 14th at 7:00pm and Ashley Manor at 6:30pm on the 17th.

Julia Milleson, District 9, Reporter

District 10

Chairman: Lyneatte Werlinger (541)957-8616

Co-Chairman / Membership Jo Barnes : (541-459-4522)

255 Raintree Ave. Sutherlin, OR 97479 Treas. Glynn Deaton (541–839–4501)

Secretary: Flo Sangsland (541-863-6109)

Not a word.

From the Prez: HAPPY NEW YEAR to my fellow members!! I hope you all had a very nice Merry Christmas.

It has finally arrived!!! the year 2005. I am wondering if any of you know why this is such a banner year for the Oregon Old Time Fiddle Association? It is a year that we as members of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers can be justifiably proud. I am going to keep you in suspense a little while longer, because the answer will be found in the February issue of the Hoedowner. Watch for this.

I would like to let everyone know, I have ask Marie Bailey, the chairperson of District 8 to be the chairperson of the nominating committee this year. If she hasn't already done it she will be contacting your District chairperson and other individuals to see who would like to hold a State office next year. Anyone who has been a resident of the State of Oregon and who is 21 years of age and has been a member for at least one {1} year prior to taking office in July is eligible to hold office. I would like to see more interest in this. It is a great chance to serve your fellow members and help the organization function.

Now, a little bit about renewing your dues. Each District has a membership chairperson whose duty it is to collect the dues from each person in the District and send this along with pertinent information concerning the member to the State Membership Chairperson, "Myrtle Arnold." She will place each address on the Hoedowner mailing list and also, she will in turn compile this and send it on to the editor "Lew Holt" where the members name will be put in the membership roster. So you see, each person has a certain duty. If we will all pay our dues to the District Membership chairperson it will be much simpler and less expense to the State Association. I know you all want to help so please do this in the future.

So far, I have visited seven [7] of our Districts. [Have snow tires, will travel] It has been a great experience. Earlene and I enjoy visiting with everyone and meeting new people. It's a good opportunity to discuss the issues and listen to new ideas. Because winter is coming on and road conditions can be bad at times, I may be a little late getting to your District, but I will be there.

Once again Earlene and I extend best wishes to you and yours for a joyous New Year and may the year 2005 bring you peace and prosperity.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at Springfield on January 8th. Bob Ervin, President OOTFA

From the editor

Thanks to Katherine & Ralph Allen, Shanna Burchell, & Allen O'Dean, Addie Gonshorowski, Fred & Charlotte Harden, Gary Rayor, Wm & Azalia Chunn, Frank Geeland, Nancy Rohn, Mildred Bandy, and Jesse Sprague family for their donations to the fiddle contest.

New Members for December Hoedowner

- 1. Stephen Vandehey---Cornelius
- 2. Howard Foster---North Bend
- 3. Ken Border---Coquille
- 4. Pat Casey & Sandy Eichenlark---North Bend
- 5. Judy Dark---Xmas Valley
- 6. Darlene Wingfield & Paul Hyland---Burns
- 7. Thad & Joyce Geer---Burns
- 8. Richard & Lorraine Danskin---Salem
- 9. Leonard Colen---Monmouth
- 10. Nischa Roman---Independence
- 11. Bob & Jan Schroth---Winchester Bay
- 12. Kitty Roden---Winchester Bay
- 13. Charles & Vickie Traver---Reedsport
- 14. Jerry & Linda Parks---Lebanon

- 15. Iane & Darrell Thompson---Bend
- 16. Dianne & Jack Pioch---Prineville
- 17, Paul & Doris Ann Kirk---Bend
- 18. Betty Vales --- Central Point
- 19. Juanita Yancey---Central Point
- 20. Tom Harvey---Grants Pass
- 21. Frederick VonTress---Jacksonville
- 22. Albert & Betty Bradford---Medford
- 23. Naomi & Bob Bruhas---Shady Cove
- 24. Violet Brown---Medford

On page xxxx of the OOTFA History Book it tells about a project that Linda Danielson carried out in 1976. She interviewed 26 fiddlers in Lane, Douglas and Josephine counties. Earlier this fall Alice and I drove down to Eugene. Linda loaned me the 26 interviews that are on 60 one hour cassette tapes which have both the interviews and each fiddler playing. I have copied the tapes to 60 CDs. She, also, loaned me the interviews in printed form. They range from 40 to 60 pages (double spaced). The tapes and the written out interviews represent a valuable piece of "fiddle history." Eventually they will be made available for others. The interviews will need to be typed in a computer so that can be manipulated into a book(s). I will be asking for volunteers a bit later. Some can be done, I think, with OCR.

If you remember that a couple of years ago a group of us started the second "Oregon History Book about OOTFA." We have over 200 pages in the computer of newspaper clippings for this book and I have stacked around more newspaper articles that need to be typed into a computer. But first I must get them organized and then, again ask for volunteers.

Also, I am copying Ace's valuable 8 mm video tapes to DVDs and others that people have given/loaned me.

Dulcie Fast gave me boxes of reel to reel tapes that I am copying to CDs. The tapes are of some of our best old time fiddlers, who are no longer with us but need to be remembered.

The Gaston Old Time Fiddlers Jamboree contest will be held on Saturday, February 5, 2005. This is the third year the contest has been held at the high school in Gaston. The first year there were over 70 contestants, last year over 80 contestants so this is a very popular contest. The Contest Committee in Gaston invites you to participate. Letters of invitation will go out to many fiddlers in Oregon and Washington. If you don't have an invitation by the middle of January, let Lew Holt know and he (I) will see that you get one. Specific information is on the OOTFA website. Or drop me an email.

Donna Reuter in Hood River private fiddle lessons — (541) 386-2633. fiddledr@aol.

LeRoy Newport www.leroynewportsband.com

Ben Coker has a nice 1902 Salvador DeDuro fiddle for sale. 541-783-3478 - Chiloquin

Peg Willis's web site: http://www.oregontrail.net/~fiddlepeg

Lew—Just a reminder If all who send check by mail for dues also send a stamped envelope for the return of their membership card would save money for OOTFA. Thanks—Myrtle

LeRoy Sims — new CD, the price is \$15 plus \$2 shipping. LeRoy & Shirley Sims, 831 Village Circle, Chino Valley, AZ. 86323. Or contact Lew — that's me.

Eileen Witler—Teaching fiddle at her studio at 11825 SW Greenburg Road #2A in Tigard. 503-701-1578 or email her at ewit@juno.com.

Sheri West is now 'officially' giving private fiddle and mandolin lessons in Southern Oregon. Fiddleist@aol.com or (541) 665-0673.

For Sale-1000 trails/Naco West and camper resorts memberships Thelma Drayer 541-946-1595.

I have 2 guitars made by Bob Crump in 1996 -- Joyce Crump -- (503) 472-3443 jcrump@viclink.com or 809 SE Border Lane, McMinnville, Oregon.

Violin maker Jonathan S. Franke of Monroe, Oregon, was a participant in the Violin Society of America 16th International Violin Making Competition held Nov. 8-14 in Portland Oregon. Mr. Franke won a certificate of merit for quartet tone. A quartet is composed of two violins, one viola, and a cello. Mr. Franke was the only Oregonian to receive an award at the bi-annual competition.

Hundreds of violin and bow makers from around the world submitted their work in this year's competition. Considered by many to be the most progressive competition in existence, the VSA presents awards for violins, violas, cellos, basses, bows, and matched quartets on both tone and workmanship. The tone judges for Mr. Franke's quartet are the members of the renowned Shanghai String Quartet.

The VSA is an international organization of more than 1500 members whose mission is to advance the art and science of making stringed instruments and bows. This is accomplished through international competitions, conventions, publications, the VSA-Oberlin workshop programs in instrument making, bow making, instrument setup and violin acoustics and a scholarship program.

More information can be found at Mr. Franke's web site: http://www.proviolins.com

If you would like to contact Mr. Franke, he can be reached at jon@proviolins.com or by phone 541-847-6021.

Jonathan S. Franke - Maker of fine violins, violas, and cellos. Visit my website at: http://www.proviolins.com

Lew, Editor