

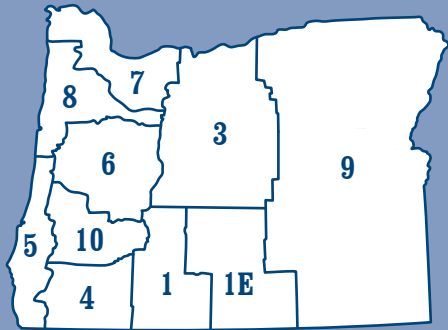
THE OREGON • OLD TIME • FIDDLERS' HOEDOWNER

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From Your President

As predicted, this year's OOTFA convention went as advertised. All who attended, from all I could observe, had a great time. Plan on attending the next one if you haven't been to one yet. On the business side, the previous state officers were re-elected for another year. On the social side, (the fun side) many deserving folks received awards for outstanding service to our association: **Darla Knudsen** for Norm Nash Distinguished Service Award, **Larry McLain** for the Bill Yohee Award for exemplary service in the BackUp department, and the Homer McLain award went to **Paula Sanders**. Also given awards were **Eileen Walter** and **Roland White**. Eileen for her superb and tireless handling of the Oregon State Fiddle Contest and Roland for his great job for Presidential duties of 2014-15 years. Also given honorable mention and certificate was Lew Holt for his many excellent years of providing the Friday night public shows. This year was no exception. Along with countless opportunities to jam or just enjoy each other's company, workshops added so much to our overall enjoyment and education. I want to personally thank all of you who contributed so many hours to make this year's convention a success. (you know who you are!) It was a smooth event because of you. Hope to see many of you at the Silver Lake Campout.

'Til then, keep those instruments tuned up and ready to hit the road!

~ Jim

From the Editor: Tunes of the Month

Just returning from the convention as I write this, I'm still buzzing with the new tunes I've heard. It's rare in these times to feel so supported and encouraged in a group setting. To the many people who have taught me a tune or answered my questions or encouraged me as a learner... I want to say thank you. I feel that many of you are my mentors.... watching out for me and caring--truly caring about my progress as a musician. It's a rare and precious thing we share. The music seems to bind us together though we come from different regions, political persuasions and perspectives. Our love of music and the lifelong learning we do together far outweigh our differences. Steve and I are going to take Hal Thompson's advice to heart and get out to other districts to hear their music and their stories. Hoping to see you at Silver Lake!

~ Karen

OOTFA 2017 Convention



The last band of Friday night performing "I'll Fly Away"

From the Editor Emeritus

Here is part of a letter I wrote to my mother. It was Alice's and my first exposure to the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers 46 years ago. A report in the January Hoedowner of 1972 describes the event I reference--from the fiddler's perspective.

Our next experience was in Coquille in 1976 and then again in Bandon in 1979. This one took the lid off and changed our lives.

North Bend, Oregon

Sunday Dec. 10, 1971

Dear Mom,

This afternoon was extremely interesting and I wish you could have been with us. Last week I heard on the radio that there was going to be a fiddle jamboree in town so Alice, Tim, and I spent from 1:00 until 4:00 listening to old time fiddlers and guitars. People had come from all over Oregon to play together. They played until 3:00 and moved back chairs and danced for an hour to the old time music. There must have been 15 fiddle players and they each played 3 tunes. There were some special numbers - guitar and mandolins, etc. The gal that played the piano, Bessie Buker, really bounced. We left at 4:00 - Tim had sat real patiently for 3 hours and we needed to get home to put up the Christmas lights. Anyway - I really enjoyed listening to the music and watching people dance - as they did at Bridgeport.

Hoedowner January 1972

SOUTHERN DIVISION REPORTS: The jam session in North Bend was another big success. We had fifteen fiddlers: Cliff Buker, Dick Frankland, Sue Walker, Mary Walker, Jim Rose, Jim Morris, Russ Hall, Billy Warwick, Carl Van Hooser, Sherman Wilson, Fred Virtue, Buck Aulman, Cecil Davidson, Bud Ryan and Don Gish. As back-ups we had: Bessie Buker, piano; Earl Aulman, Wilma Ryan, Steve Hall, Ken Ryan, Pete Oden, Jim Clark, Billy Warwick, and Jim Morris all on guitar. As extra solos we had George Cabal and Pete Oden on their mandolins. The I.W.A. Local 3-261, donated their beautiful new hall for our jam session. Russ Hall and his wife were responsible for all the wonderful help we had. We want to thank all of those that helped to make this another successful jam session. Martha Warwick.

~ Lew

District 1 (Klamath Falls Area)

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Correspondence/Historian: Karen Ayers, 541-783-2970

Reporter: Jenny Dreyer, 541-205-6397

Scheduler: Irene Ruddock, 541-882-6418/ Ben Coker, 541-783-3478

Greetings All from District One,

April was a full month of music for District 1. We celebrated Ms. Faye Patterson's 94th birthday, and what a wonderful day it was! We filled the birthday venue with family, friends, good music and food...we had over 60 people come and celebrate Ms. Faye! Here is what she had to say after her special day: "I want to thank my District 1, my family, friends, and especially Jenny and Sheila for the work they put into it. Thanks for the flowers and other gifts. I love you all. Faye Patterson". Not to be outdone, District 1 also had a fabulous April jam/dance! Here is a description of the day by Fran Coker... "What a fabulous music day. We had 14 musicians in attendance, including three new people: Laura (brand new member) on fiddle, Joyce on clawhammer banjo, and Evan on fiddle. The tempo was upbeat, the fun level was high, the smiles were many, and the time flew by. We were going so well, the music didn't stop until almost 4 p.m. So very glad Ben and I rushed back Sunday morning from the OOTFA convention to open the doors. Even the McLains stopped by for a short bit on their way back home. Anyone who didn't show up missed a very special day!" Wow, what a busy month and that doesn't include Rickreall...a very FULL April of OOTFA music, with more just around the corner. We are already talking about SILVER LAKE! By the time the next issue comes out, we will all hopefully have many fine memories from the Silver Lake Campout. ☺

May Events

14	meeting/jam	Shasta Grange	12:15 - 3 p.m.
16	gig	Pelican Point	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
18	gig	Plum Ridge	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
18	gig	Pacifica/Brookdale	1 - 2 p.m.
25	gig	Quail Park (Bistro)	10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
25	gig	Rogue River Place	1 - 2 p.m.

Practice on Saturdays 1- 4 p.m. at Luther Square. Check with Irene Ruddock for date and times 541-882-6418.

May Birthdays: Lena Dreyer, Sheila Fry, Steven Curry, Phil Fulbright, Gracie Kliewer, Lucinda Kliewer, Mary Knapp, Darleth Rodgers, Rinda Scott, Fred Stiverson, Jake Swartwood, and Lois Tucker.

May Anniversaries: Teresa & Bill Hazen.

Let me know if I missed anyone!

~ Jenny Dreyer, District 1 Reporter



President Jim and MC Larry Costa present Larry McLain's award for his contributions as back-up musician

District 1E (Lakeview, Silver Lake Area)

Chairperson: Cambria Amacker, 541-219-0019

Vice-Chair: Mary Ann McLain, 541-947-2448

Secretary-Treasurer: Sharilyn McLain, 541-219-0896

P.O. Box 603, Lakeview OR 97630

Reporter: Nancy Yialouris, 707-227-0753

I'm sitting in my RV late Thursday night up at Rickreall, the second night of our convention, and listening to the rain on the roof. We were lucky enough to have a sun break this afternoon and the weather was conducive to sitting outside. For those who didn't make the trip, the jamming has been worth the long drive some of us had to make to get here. It's been wonderful to see Darla Knudsen and Cathy Frutche here. Both are facing serious medical issues, so sharing this time with them is a delight.

We hosted our April First Saturday Jam and were pleased that so many people from Klamath's District 1 could join us. Darleth and Johnny Rogers, Ben and Fran Coker, Edna Jenkins and her friend, Mary, Mike Foster, Janet Brayman from District 9, Ron, Don, Mike, Larry & Terry, Rosa Lee, Barrett Amaker, and yours truly, all Lakeview locals, took part. We kicked off Janet's birthday week with some cupcakes and the birthday song and played from 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. with some time out for dinner. Larry and Terry headed out to play with Catlin Martin and Travis Riddle of Rico Nova at the Eagles Nest until the wee hours of the morning. They never get enough music.

JOIN US FOR THE SILVER LAKE CAMPOUT May 4 -7 !!!

Details about the campout have posted on the OOTFA calendar (see the OOTFA website). For those who haven't heard, be reminded that gas may not be available in Silver Lake, so be sure to fill your RV's gas and propane tanks before leaving civilization.

There is no gas within 100-120 miles east and west of Silver Lake, so you'll need enough gas in your tank to get back to La Pine or Lakeview before you can fill up again. Also, please fill your fresh water tank before arriving at camp. There is no charge for dry camping but a charge of \$10 per/night for electricity. Electricity is limited so it is a "first come, first served" proposition. Thursday will be devoted to jamming, non-stop. We will have a hat contest again this year on Friday night and anyone who has the stamina to pull off an overnigher may earn a teddy bear pin. That requires staying up until 3 a.m. making music and then dancing with the bear. The "Canned Bands" will be drawn on

District 3 (Bend, Redmond, The Dalles Area)

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Secretary: Vivian Tucker, 541-420-5794 • 7spanishangels@outlook.com

Treasurer: Ed Fritz, 541-504-4209 • edfritzguitars2@gmail.com

Membership: Teri Tucker, 503-930-6775 • tjtucker0605@outlook.com
2835 S. Adams Drive • Madras OR 97741

Reporters: Kim Martin 360-852-2413 • crgypsy@live.com

Pat Borden 541-408-7181 • pattyann335@gmail.com

Website: www.centraloregonfiddlers.com

Howdy from District 3,

Even though we woke up to a cold, cloudy morning, there was a good turnout for our jam/dance. There were 17 musicians and 32 guests who danced to almost every song played.

Please join us on May 14th for our Mothers Day Potluck. Ham, coffee, water will be provided, and bring your favorite side dish or dessert. We will eat at noon, clean up, and begin the jam/dance at 1 p.m.

We have been in need of some sound equipment to improve our jams and performances. Brad Gray has been providing

May Events

4-7	Silver Lake Camp Out	Fire House in Silver Lake	
11	Jam	Rosa Lee's	5 p.m.
18	Jam	Rosa Lee's	5 p.m.
25	Jam	Rosa Lee's	5 p.m.

Saturday night. Food is provided by the McLain Family. We understand that the restaurant and bar on the highway is under new ownership and may be open by the time we hold our function but they had a lot of work to do so may not make their target opening day, the 1st of May.

We realized, due to family obligations, OOTFA events, and holidays, we won't host another First Saturday Jam until October. There will be no house jam at Rosa Lee's on May 4, either.

We look forward to the Burns Country Jamboree June 14-17. Friends of the Library in Alturas has asked us to play at their annual fundraiser on June 24, and we'll be playing for the Car Show July 22, another outdoor gig, on E Street in Lakeview. Looks like an active summer for us and any of you who would like to join us.

One more thing before I sign off! I wanted to brag a little about Larry McLain (District 1E's own) who received the prestigious Bill Yohee Award for his contributions as a backup musician. Larry is the driving force behind many of the people who play on stage at our state and regional gatherings and jams. He keeps a steady rhythm and his chord changes enhance what the lead player does, one of the primary characteristics of a great side man. This is the second time Larry has been selected to receive this award and I believe he may be the only Backup Award winner in our organization to receive it twice. He confided that he thought it was "a mistake because he'd already won it once" and he didn't think he deserved it. But the truth of the matter is he is an accomplished player and of course he deserves the award! He is an awesome person as well as a terrific musician and one who strives to continue to learn and improve his talent. Congratulations Larry! You make District 1E shine.

See you in Silver Lake or Burns!

~ Nancy Yialouris, District 1E Reporter

May Events

6	gig	Cowboy Church	Powell Butte Christian Church	7 - 8 p.m.
14	2nd	Sunday jam/dance	Powell Butte CC	1 - 3:30 p.m.

equipment when he can attend, but we do need to have our own. Jeanette Bondsteel wrote a grant request to OOTFA to see if they could help us out. Our grant was approved, and we will be able to purchase the needed equipment! Thanks to Jeanette for all her hard work and to OOTFA for their generosity!

Margaret Keen has been working with the Country Living Facility in Redmond. They would like to have a group of a few musicians who could play for their residents once a month--for which they will donate \$50 to District 3. Margaret Keen and Breffini Whelan played there in March, and Garitt Bondsteel joined them in April. All enjoyed the music. Margaret will be out of the area through the summer months but would like to have a group on deck willing to play if we are asked. Please contact Jeanette and let her know if you would be willing, so we can let the staff at Country Living know. You can reach Jeanette at 541-410-5146 or email to jbond@bendcable.com

Continued on page 4

District 3 Continued from page 3

It has been a busy April for District 3 members. Vivian and Tom Tucker as well as Judy and Oliver Robinett played at Chinook Place on Apr 12 and at East Cascades on Apr 17. Both facilities are located in Madras. A big thanks to them for entertaining at these assisted living centers. Several members will also be playing at the Powell Butte Christian Church on April 29 and May 6.

The Powell Butte Community Center is featuring pictures of our OOTFA jam/dance on their Facebook page. Do check it out. Our

District 4 (Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland Area)

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Co-Chair: Scotty Phillips, 541-601-5753, scott307@gmail.com
Secretary: Ron Bolstad 541-488-3593, bolstad@mind.net
Treasurer: Barbara Basden 541-772-0579 barbara.basden@gmail.com
Membership: Dottie Birkett 541-734-4159
Fiddle Rustler: Melinda Grant, dusty.stringz@gmail.com
Reporter: Judy Lyons, 541-956-0618, blacklyon@charter.net
District 4 Website: www.OOTFA4.org Check Us Out!

Our April monthly meeting and jam just happened to be on April Fool's Day, but there were no silly pranks, just a wonderful turnout of musicians and an overflow crowd at the Community Center in Ashland. The center is across the street from Lithia Park, and there were many folks out to enjoy the spring day. Bruce McGarvey acted as our greeter for the day and did a great job of explaining who we are and inviting people in to take a listen. Many came in and some stayed the entire two hours, enjoying the old tunes. We were so pleased to have back playing with us two of our much loved and missed fiddlers, Cathy Frutchey and Scott Phillips, who have been absent for months.

At our meeting, new officers were elected and they are listed above. Thanks to all these folks for stepping up to serve our district by accepting new responsibilities.

At the state convention in Rickreall, all the existing officers agreed to continue on in their positions for another year, and were approved unanimously. Many thanks again to all district and state officers for their dedication to our organization. Also at the state meeting there was continued conversation about developing an official website to contain information about all local and state events. There is an **open invitation to**



Judy Lyons (District 4 reporter) at the fiddle contest with Ken Luse and Jeff Walter.

District 5 (Southern Coast Area)

Chair: Dawn Vonderlin, 541-347-4561, dawndoreen@hotmail.com
Vice Chair: Gayle Triplett, 541-396-2557, gtripletrn@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jolly Hibbits, 541-347-2229, egretflats@wildblue.net
Treasurer: Ruth Weyer, 541-759-3419, mapaweyer@frontier.com
Membership: Gayle Triplett, 541-396-2557, gtripletrn@yahoo.com
Reporter: Susan Joubert, 541-266-0584, sjou686514@aol.com

During the month of March, the leprechauns were enjoying our performances as they bounced about encouraging our musicians to remember St Patrick, Ireland, the wearing of the green and various songs that hail from that part of the world. Some of the melodies mentioned the many shades of green, Tipperary, County Down, eyes that smile, and of course, Kathleen. Now that Easter is approaching, we are hearing

September Central Oregon Country Music Gathering is coming up **September 7-9**, and we are starting to get things ready. We hope to have all join us at this fun event. Lots of music, dancing, visiting, smiles, and sunny weather!

See y'all down the Music Trail!

~ Kim Martin and Pat Borden District 3 Reporters

May Events

13	jam	Heritage Days in Butte Creek (meet at mill)	11:30 a.m.
20	jam	Children's Festival at Hanley Farm	11 a.m.
27	gig	Crater RV Park, Prospect	7 p.m.

anyone with knowledge about website development to help with this project. If you're interested, contact Dave Basden at 541-772-0579 or dave@basden.us. New rosters were available and some have been brought back and are available for just \$3. Patti Luse has done a wonderful job with the roster, and along with listing members, the back page has information about monthly state meetings and campouts.

At the Friday night, "Really Big Show", which was open to the public and well attended, our district was represented by Melinda Grant and Sylvia Chapman. They did an outstanding job of presenting the tunes performed in our area, and many thanks to them. At the last minute, Judy McGarvey was asked to round up and organize the youth fiddlers to open the program, and she did get about twenty youngsters up. The audience loved them, including one four year old with a pink ukulele singing "Old McDonald".

Unfortunately, before the banquet Sylvia took a fall and cracked her knee, and was in quite a lot of pain. She's home recovering. If you've never been to one of the conventions, it's really a time to get to know other members from around the state. Many friendly, talented and hard-working members are dedicated to continuing and growing our organization. On May 13 our second Saturday jam will be a performance at the Heritage Days in Butte Creek at the mill. We will meet at 11:30 in the yard next to the mill site. On May 20, please come out for the Children's Festival at Hanley Farm at 11 a.m. These are wonderful opportunities to share our music and organization with the public. Please plan to attend. Also along with our usual monthly gigs, we will be at the Crater R.V. Park in Prospect on May 27 at 7 p.m. Check the online calendar for details and maps or call an officer for information. Hope to see all of you at these fun happenings!

~ Judy Lyons, District 4 Reporter

May Events

3	gig	Myrtle Point Care Center, Myrtle Point	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
10	gig	Bay Crest, North Bend	1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
10	gig	Evergreen Court (next to Bay Crest) North Bend	3 - 4 p.m.
17	gig	Pacific View, Bandon	2 - 3 p.m.
20	meeting, jam	Winchester Bay Community Center	11 - 12 p.m. (finger food) 12 - 1 p.m. (on stage) 1 - 3 p.m. (circle jam)
24	gig	Avamere, Coos Bay	1 - 2 p.m.
24	gig	Bayside Terrace, Coos Bay	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

"Peter Cottontail" and "Easter Parade". It is fun and unique to be able to highlight several songs that we don't hear most of the year. The holiday months and special celebrations bring smiles to the audiences as memories surface.

JR FIDDLERS

Volume 11, No. 5

May 2017

Junior Fiddler: Dana Scott (District 1)



Dana is a 10 year old country girl with a fiddle in her hand. Dana had been playing piano and had wanted to learn a stringed instrument, so when she heard about a fiddle class being offered by some of the District 1 fiddlers, she signed up and began fiddle class in the fall of 2014.

Dana learns a song by reading the music, but it's not long until she can play the song from memory. She has a very good ear for music. Dana played "Ashokan Farewell" at the District 1 Christmas program. Among her other favorites are "Ode to

Joy" and "Joys of Quebec". She loves to play songs that are really fast, so she chooses songs like: "Irish Washer Woman", "Liberty", and "Turkey in the Straw". This last summer Dana wrote her first song and shared it with all her fiddle friends. It is called the "Dog of Dogs". Playing in front of people is not one of her favorite things, but she has played at many of the fiddlers' jams. She enjoys all the friends she has made since she started fiddling, and District 1 appreciates her help and her positive attitude.

Dana and her family are very busy as there are four children. The Scott family raises pumpkins each year and has an open pumpkin patch for the public where the kids all help. She likes playing soccer and volleyball. After graduating, she would like to go to college to study Veterinary Medicine. This is no surprise as she has a great love for animals.

Oregon State Fiddle Contest Report:

Another successful contest has come and gone. I was so pleased to feel a lot of positive and enthusiastic energy from the 50 contestants, 20 accompanists, 30 volunteers, and an attentive and appreciative audience. Thank you to everyone including the districts and other donors. It's always a pleasure to watch friends meet up with friends they haven't seen in awhile, to listen to fiddlers play their best tunes, and to put on a good show.

This year we introduced a new special award which we plan on awarding to a different fiddler each year at the contest. It is called the "Holt Award" in recognition of the many years of contributions to the contest and many other events by Lew and Alice. Each year the judges will be given a different "secret criteria" to decide among themselves the winner. This year's criteria was "most unique tunes in the first round". After hearing every fiddler play in all of the first rounds of all the divisions, they chose a winner. Remember, the judges cannot see who the contestants are – they are in a separate room and do not hear the introductions. When they told me which contestant number in which division had won, I looked to see who it was – and, can you believe it? It was Alice Holt! That was a perfect beginning for the "Holt Award"!



Eileen

And, since attendance has been declining at contests everywhere, it became apparent that Oregon should join many other states (including but not limited to Washington, California, Nevada, Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, Alaska) in opening up the contest and not requiring contestants to be state residents. Participants would still need to be members of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association, and the highest placing Oregonian in each division would still be certified to Weiser. The contest will still be held on one day and will not incur any additional expenses. According to positive reports from other states that have made this change years ago, there has not been a flood of additional contestants, but there has been enough to give the contests a boost of additional energy and help ensure the continuation of an important traditional way of perpetuating old-time fiddling. This change to the standing rules was voted on and unanimously approved by the membership present at the general meeting at the convention.

I hope to see you at next year's contest – you have almost a year to get ready! Please mark your calendars for **March 17, 2018**.

Keep fiddling,

~ Eileen

2017 Fiddle Contest



The kids opened the show on Friday night!



District 4 musicians on stage: Melinda Grant, Dave & Barbara Basden

Contestants in the 2017 Oregon State Fiddle Contest

Championship

- 1. Tabitha Gholi
- 2. Andy Emert
- 3. Lauren Allison
- 4. Bob Heinith

Adult

- 1. Amy Booher
- 2. Jeanine Orme
- 3. Donna Reuter
- 4. Mike Elston

Accompanist

- 1. Jeff Walter
- 2. Rod Anderson
- 3. Ken Luse
- 4. Andy Emert
- 5. Jerry Parks
- 5. Jerry Parks

Small Fry

- 1. Lorelei Hein
- 2. Felicia Guptill
- 3. Noah Swift
- 4. Dylan Guptill

Young Adult

- 1. Annabel Guptill
- 2. Ludi Phillips
- 3. Josh Ashcraft
- 4. Kiersten Doggett
- 5. Sophie Glew

Oldest Fiddler

Willie Carter

Youngest Fiddler

Noah Swift

Holt Award

Alice Holt

Junior

- 1. Tenaya Cooley
- 2. Colton Swift
- 3. Alexis Roullette
- 4. Gideon Stasak
- 5. Cascade Martin
- 5. Cascade Martin
- 6. Mikelle Stasak

Junior Junior

- 1. Silas Phillips
- 2. Natalie Guptill
- 3. Gideon Mathias
- 4. Cameron Cooley
- 5. Clay Swift
- 6. Henry Hood
- 7. Isabel Swift
- 8. Eliza Mathias
- 9. Autumn Blaha
- 10. Jordan Stasak
- 11. Noelle Stasak

Senior

- 1. Starr McMullen
- 2. Hajime Nagashima
- 3. Amy Starke
- 4. Rick Bergeron
- 5. Joan Harrington
- 5. Joan Harrington
- 6. Maggie Dickerson

Senior Senior

- 1. Jim Kuether
- 2. Donna Foreman
- 3. Jerry Parks
- 4. Judy McGarvey
- 5. Alice Holt
- 6. Willie Carter
- 7. Les Tucker
- 8. Judith Lyons
- 9. Darlene Bryant
- 10. Lew Holt

Twin

- 1. Annabel Guptill/Craig Boekenoogen
- 2. Starr McMullen/Andy Emert
- 3. Donna Reuter/Eileen Walter
- 4. Kiersten Doggett/Tenaya Cooley
- 5. Joan Harrington/Maggie Dickerson
- 6. Ludi Phillips/Silas Phillips
- 7. Donna Foreman/Rick Bergeron
- 8. Henry Hood/Gideon Mathias
- 9. Natalie Guptill/Autumn Blaha
- 10. Josh Ashcraft/Hajime Nagashima
- 11. Colton Swift/Jim Kuether
- 11. Isabel Swift/Clay Swift
- 13. Gideon Stasak/Mikelle Stasak
- 13. Judy McGarvey/Judy Lyons

Anything Goes

- 1. Tabitha Gholi
- 2. Tenaya Cooley
- 3. Donna Reuter
- 4. Ludi Phillips
- 5. Jeanine Orme
- 6 tie. Colton Swift
- 6 tie. Kiersten Doggett
- 8 tie. Annabel Guptill
- 8 tie. Marilee Hord
- 10 tie. Eliza Mathias
- 10 tie. Lorelei Hein
- 12. Josh Ashcraft
- 13. Clay Swift
- 14. Bob Heinith
- 15. Jim Kuether
- 16. Isabel Swift



Lew Holt receives award for his hard work on the convention



Secretary Darla Knudsen hugs her plaque, with Jesse Knudsen and Joyce Kuether!



Three generations on stage (Kelly Wadsworth, District 10, with daughter Amanda & grandchildren Asher & Holly, District 6)



Larry Costa and helpers at the banquet

District 5 (Continued from page 4)

On March 29, our group had a practice session and lunch at Coney Station, a popular eating place on Hwy 101. Approximately 10 musicians took part and a few spouses were on the sidelines. It is not very often that a 5th Wednesday occurs in a month. Since Wednesday is the day we are committed to playing at the residence centers, we were able to use that extra Wednesday afternoon in a fun and productive way.

May is upon us, and soon we will be changing schedules from the resident care centers to the State Parks. It is nice to have a change of venue and share old time music with vacationers, campers, and anyone else who happens to stroll by.

It was a close vote, but the theme for our August campout stage contest is CELESTIAL. The choices for songs are as vast as the Montana sky. It will be thrilling to see what you choose as you search the songs about the heavens. Our Brookings event is ongoing even as this issue of the Hoedowner goes to publication. Highlights to be shared in June. Details regarding our district sponsored campout will also be in the June issue.

Many thanks to all who planned and executed the convention. I am sure that many members took part in the myriad of things that had to be done in the final days that led up to it as well as those days in which the convention took place. We were

pleased that Bob Shaffar and Linda Eickhoff were the two fiddle players from our district. Thank you for representing us.

We could not exist without our continually faithful musicians; this month I want to introduce one of our pillars. Verna Lee is someone who always shows up with a smile, a tune, and a voice. She is extremely faithful, and her fellow musicians and the audiences appreciate it. Verna was born in Michigan but moved a lot, thereby attending 9 schools in 12 years. Clarinet and Hawaiian guitar were her first instruments. At age 12 she took Hawaiian guitar lessons from her dad. Junior high and high school choir gave her the opportunity to improve her vocal skills. Today she has added to her earlier instruments the acoustic guitar, Dobro, banjo and organ! What talent! Verna married Robert E. Lee Jr. on June 8th, 1957. They raised 3 boys and lived most of their married life in the same house where Verna is now living, in the country outside of Charleston, OR. She joined OOTFA in 2010 and shared that one of the reasons she likes it so well is that for many years she had no one with whom to share music, but now she has many opportunities to play with really good musicians who welcome her. We are glad that someone let Verna know about OOTFA. Otherwise we would be missing the gift that she is to all of us.

~ Susan Joubert, District 5 Reporter

District 6 (Eugene, Corvallis, Lebanon Area)

Chairman: Peggy Mulder, 541-334-4444, peggy@brasscreek.com
Vice-Chair: Amy Burrow, 541-998-6294, aru.bur6294@gmail.com
Secretary: Shirley Nemke, 541-357-4832, ShirleyNemke@gmail.com
Treasurer: Bernie Roberts, 541-689-5764, beroberts285@comcast.net
Membership: Linda Parks, 541-905-2313, LindaParks1980@gmail.com, 36989 Deadwood Dr., Lebanon, OR 97355
Reporter: Amy Burrow, 541-998-6294, aru.bur6294@gmail.com

Being a bit of a nosey-nosington, I was curious about what led Ila Mae Carmickle to establish a fiddle class free to all, and lead it faithfully for ten years. I requested a chat with her and her husband, Mark, to learn their story. The two of them have been OOTFA leaders since 1988.

Ila Mae grew up in Spokane and was first chair violinist in her elementary school and of the "All-City" orchestra by the time she was 12. Around 1987, she was recruited into OOTFA and District 6 when then-State President Maxine Benson learned that Ila Mae and her mother played violin. Greg Baker, a Portland OOTFA member, hosted a one-day workshop in Eugene. Ila Mae attended, was introduced to shuffle bowing and went on to be warmly welcomed at the State Fiddle Convention in Roseburg, where she became hooked on old-time fiddling.

After Mark, raised in Missouri, retired from his career as a pipe fitter and plumber, a granddaughter asked him to build her a new violin when she learned that her instrument was beyond repair. Mark contacted a District 6 fiddle maker who mentored him through the process, leading him to create fiddles for other granddaughters.

The mentor invited him to a jam at Springfield Senior Center and encouraged him to keep his eyes on the woman who was playing with beautiful technique. That was Ila Mae. The two began to keep company, playing at jams and ultimately and happily marrying in 1989, the year that Mark was elected President of OOTFA.

Ila Mae's first fiddle class in 2007 evolved during Central Grange jams after some starter instruments were snapped up by players eager to fiddle, but who needed help. The class grew and moved

May Events

4	jam	Old-World Deli, Corvallis	7 p.m.
6	Intermediate Fiddle Class	River Rd. Annex	1 - 4 p.m.
8	Basic Fiddle Class	Bethesda Lutheran	1 - 4 p.m.
12	jam	Elmira Grange	7 - 9 p.m.
13	District jam	Central Grange	12 - 4 p.m.
19	jam	YaPoAh Terrace	7 - 9 p.m.
26	jam	Willakenzie Grange	7 - 9 p.m.

to the Carmickle's beautiful log home. As interest grew, the classes moved to River Road Annex and Bethesda Lutheran Church. Both Basic and Intermediate Classes are attended loyally by fiddlers and back-up players. Linda Danielson is on hand for tutorials during the Basic Class. Ila Mae's phone number is incorrect in the roster. It is 541-852-1044.

District 6 is grateful for the dedication the Carmickle's have shown the organization and thank them for all they've given. If you've not been to one of the classes, they are comfortable and offer a chance to learn new tunes and practice with friends. When asked what they thought were "must-learn" tunes, they listed "Maggie" and "Chinese Breakdown".

The district held its Quarterly Business meeting at Central Grange on April 15, and new officers were installed. Our officers are listed above. Tony Humphreys, Allan Stults and Bernie Roberts deserve our respect and thanks for a year of excellent leadership service and some of the most memorable business meetings on record. In other business, Lois Eagleton volunteered to take charge of the loaner violin fleet. Current directories and fiddle camp literature are now available. There are camp scholarships for youth and adults. Up-to-the-minute info. can be found at fiddlecamp.org.



Mark Carmickle (District 6)

District 6 (Continued from previous page)

OOTFA recognized Darla Knudsen for her devoted service, granting her the coveted Norm Nash Award for Distinguished Service. She also received the award for Outstanding Service and Dedication as Secretary. Congratulations and thank you for your service, Darla!

Birthday felicitations to Tenaya Cooley, Jeri Walling, Annie Carter, Brian Sorrells.

Anniversary kudos to the Barans, the Coffins and the Luses. Well done!

~ Amy Burrow, District 6 Reporter

District 7 (Portland, Northern Coast Area)

Chair: Marcella Easley, 503-855-3535, marlueasily@gmail.com
Co-Chair: Donna Foreman, 503-630-3577, foremandd@rconnects.com
Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Zabudsky, 503-630-7499, rdzinstruments@msn.com
Membership: Marcella Easley, 503-855-3535, marlueasily@gmail.com
Reporter: Elaine Schmidt, 503-492-0750, elaineschmidt79@yahoo.com
Scheduler: Ron Zabudsky, 503-630-7499

May Events

13 jam St. James Episcopal Church (parish hall, refreshments available)
11511 SW Bull Mt. Road, Tigard 2 - 4 p.m.
28 NW Jam 600 NE 8th Street, Gresham Doors open at 11 and
sign-up playing 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Hello District 7 OOTFA members.

We only have two events in May, but as mentioned above we will be playing at a new venue in Tigard, St. James Episcopal Church. We hope to have many more at this site in the future. This will be a good opportunity for members who live on the West Side to play, and we hope this can become a regular event. Fred Davis has set this up for us and we will be playing for members of the congregation and the public. We look forward to seeing a good turn-out.

Here are a few notes about the business meeting from our District Chair, Marcella Easley. "The business meeting resulted in changing the standing rules to allow other states to enter in our state contest, which hopefully will result in more participation. The stipulation is that the person who represents Oregon in Weiser for the National contest must be an Oregon resident, so if the winner is out of state, the next runner-up will represent us in Weiser."

We had a great conference in Rickreall again this year. If you haven't been to this annual five-day convention, you've missed a lot of fun, food, and of course, fiddling. I would encourage you to come to this gathering next year where you can play in large or small groups, attend one of the workshops, take part in the variety show, attend the annual meeting, participate in the amazing door prize drawings and attend the banquet and dance on the last night.

We have a number of new members this month. Eric and Dalene Stasak and family, Christine and David Hein and family, Sophie Glew, and Rhonda Patten. In addition to these people, Rogert Downie from Tualatin who plays the upright bass also just joined. Welcome to all of you and we look forward to getting to know you.

Enjoy your spring, everyone.

~ Elaine Schmidt, District 7 Reporter

District 8 (Salem, McMinnville, Tillamook/Newport Area)

Chairman: Dennis Brutke, 503-835-3725
Vice-Chair: Marie Bailey, 503-835-7185 bambaily36@yahoo.com
Sec: Alice Holt, 503-989-4836 or 503-391-5377 aliceholt@aol.com
Treasurer: Lew Holt, 503-391-5377 lewholt@aol.com
Membership: Donna Janszen 503-585-3033, DANDJJ@msn.com
Reporter: Alice Holt, 503-989-4836 or 503-391-5377, aliceholt@aol.com

May Events

13 gig Sheep to Shawl Mission Mill, Salem 1:30 - 3 p.m.
20 jam American Legion, McMinnville 1 - 3 for the public. Open by 11 a.m.
We can order lunch. If enough of us do so, the rent will be waived.

Welcome to our newly elected officers! See our list above! And thank you to Dick Dery, Darlene Bryant, Marie Cunningham and Elaine Conners as retiring officers.

Convention is over, and it was a wonderful gathering of friends. We jammed and visited, catching up on other's lives since we last saw them. Many thanks to District 7 members as well as our District 8 for bringing food and helping in the kitchen on Wednesday.

road, which is Cumulus, and Atlantic is on your right, almost to the end, where it bends right.

District 8 will be playing Saturday May 13 for the annual Sheep to Shawl gathering at the Willamette Heritage Center, Mission Mill, in Salem. We'll be on the Warehouse Deck if the weather is dry. We will be moved indoors if it rains. This is a fun event. You can see sheep shorn, the wool carded and spun, and then made into a shawl. The address is:
Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill St SE, Salem, OR 97301

District 8's summer picnic will be June 10 at Lynn and Fred's house (same location as last year). More information in the June Hoedowner, but a heads up now to please bring chairs if at all possible.

The following Saturday, May 20, we will have our monthly jam at the American Legion in McMinnville. Here are instructions to get there: If you are coming from the NORTH turn right on Norton Lane at the traffic light by the hospital and if you are coming from the South turn left at the light, from Hwy. 18. Turn left on the next

I've always said OOTFA has the most caring and supportive people anywhere. I found out Saturday night at convention that it is true! Thank you all for your help and concern for me and for Lew. I don't usually talk about my health, but I think I owe all of you some explanation. I have atrial fibrillation (AFib). It's usually just an occasional irregular heart beat. I have no idea why it kicked into high gear. Ambulance took me to ER in Salem. They got the heart and blood pressure back to normal. At ERs recommendation I stayed in the hospital overnight for further monitoring. All went well. By coincidence I had my 6 month cardiologist checkup on the following Monday. I'll be getting a 2 week monitor to further diagnose the condition. Thanks you all so much for your concern.

~ Alice Holt, District 8 Reporter

District 9 (Burns - John Day Area)

Chair: Don Greenfield, 541-589-4409, greenfield.at.aurora@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Joan Suther, 541-573-5601, jsuther10@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer/Membership: George Sahlberg

Reporter: Marianne Andrews, marianneandrews@gmail.com

Our April Sunday potluck and jam was a huge success. Seventeen musicians—count them! Ruel and Randy and Paula were back from the southlands, Janet was back from OOTFA State Convention (hello, y'all), Ian, Don, Joan, Marianne, Chris, Robin, Randy G., and Billy were there from Burns. Then we had the pleasure of having Ron Phillips and Carl Stinnett from John Day come down, and Carl's son John Stinnett joined us with his home-made diddley bows- a one-string and a three-string cigar box instrument from the 1880s. Hugh Galliher joined us from Jerome, Idaho, and Larry Koskela joined us for his first time with his bass voice and guitar. Among the clappers were Lew Harris and Don Williams (give LaWanda our best), bringing the listeners' numbers to just past the musician numbers.

District 10 (Roseburg, Canyonville, Sutherlin Area)

Chair: Jerry Hash, 541-817-3161, fiddlers3400@aol.com

Vice-Chair: Colleen Hanks, 541-733-5381, crhanksba@aol.com

Secretary: Dona Brown, 541-817-3161, fiddlers3400@aol.com

Treasurer: Gynn Deaton, 541-839-4501, gynnnde@charter.net

Membership: Mary Oswald, 541-637-5283, mdoswald41@yahoo.com (Joyce Kuether - backup)

Program Coordinator: Vacant (Contact Sharon Thompson 541-430-5898 if you can help out)

Kitchen Manager: Sandy Harter, 541-679-4110, sandharter@gmail.com

Sound Equipment Person: Jim Kuether, 503-260-5972 (Gene Hodson - backup)

Reporter and Publicist: Joe Ross, 541-670-9120 or 541-673-9759, rossjoe@hotmail.com

The State Fiddle Contest and Convention are history. We appreciate everyone who made these great successes. The contest had many entrants in all divisions, and we congratulate all participants with a special shout-out to the hardworking accompanists who put in many hours providing good rhythm backup. At the convention, the Friday show was very entertaining. Over 100 members enjoyed the Saturday banquet, awards and raffle. We congratulate the new OOTFA State officers, as well as those who received awards.

Our fourth Saturday April 22 Sutherlin meeting and jam resulted in the election of new officers, and we had several guests from other districts at the jam. Thanks for coming.

Our featured district member this month is Francis Stephenson who was born in 1932 in New Brunswick, Canada, 100 miles north of the Maine border. He grew up listening to Wilf Carter and Hank Snow on the radio. Around 1941, he pulled in WWVA, Wheeling, WV, and he heard Hawkshaw Hawkins, Little Jimmie Dickens, and Cowboy Copas on their Saturday Night Jamboree. But, Wilma Lee and Stoney Cooper (and



Sandy Harter and mom, Mae (District 10)

May Events

5	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
12	gig	The Aspens	7 - 9 p.m.
14	potluck/jam, Harney County Senior Center, 1 p.m. potluck and 2-4 p.m. jam		
HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!!! Come enjoy the music.			
15	gig	Ashley Manor	6 - 7 p.m.
19	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
26	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.

Thank you to the Keilhorn grant committee for the help we need to bring the Youth Fiddle Workshop to the Burns Country Music Jamboree (which is coming up June 15-17). We will be having a beginning class and a novice class for the kids. Also, John Stinnett is going to present a Diddley Bow making workshop (bring your own cigar box). Other wonderful workshops will also be presented. We will keep you posted.

Remember that the location of the Friday Jams can be discovered by calling one of the officers, or getting an e-mail from Don Greenfield. We always welcome newcomers, card players, clappers and especially the regular and extraordinary musicians.

~ Marianne Andrews, District 9 Reporter

May Events

10	gig	Rose Haven, Roseburg (2nd Wed)	10 a.m.
15	gig	Callahan Court, Roseburg (3rd Monday)	2:30 p.m.
22	gig	Callahan Village, Roseburg (4th Monday)	3:30 p.m.
25	gig	Bridgewood Rivers, Roseburg	1:30 p.m.
27	jam	Sutherlin Grange Hall, Sutherlin (4th Sat)	12 - 3 p.m.

especially Wilma Lee's voice) compelled Francis to sing and play guitar. So, in 1946, at age 14, Francis got his first guitar, and started to play and sing. In 1955, at age 23, Francis moved to Ventura, Ca. After hearing the Stanley Brothers, Francis' heart switched from country to bluegrass, forever. After living in Ventura for 12 years, and then Santa Barbara for 43 years, Francis moved to Roseburg in 2010. Francis has many favorite artists, but Ralph Stanley still tops the list. We never tire of hearing him sing a Stanley Brothers bluegrass gospel song or hymn. Francis and his wife Barbara are headed back to New Brunswick for a visit to his home place this summer.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sandy Harter whose mom, Mae Rowan, went to be with Jesus on April 2. She was a precious lady, and her eyes always twinkled when old-time fiddle and gospel music were played. Sandy says, "She slipped into glory peacefully. Thank you all for your prayers and kind thoughts through this trying time for our family." Prior to our May jam, we'll have a gathering from 10-11 a.m. in memory of Mae. Then we'll have some light refreshments from 11 a.m. - noon, followed by the jam.

On May 11, Hal and Sharon Thompson celebrate their anniversary. Congratulations, Hal and Sharon! Soon, we expect to see Jon Tilley and Julie Yarbrough back from six months of wintering in the foothills outside Yuma, Az.

If you have an unused instrument to play, sell, share or donate, bring it to our jam. At our jams, we also set up a table for music-related items and instruments for sale, exchange or rent. A donation by the seller back to District 10 and OOTFA is encouraged.

If anyone is interested in buying a grange hall in Douglas County, both the Fair Oaks and Evergreen halls are currently for sale. Give me a call if you need more information.

Pick and Grin!

~ Joe Ross, District 10 Reporter



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These name tags are yellow with blue letters, OOTFA logo and your district number. To order please specify pin or magnetic back and send your name, address, and district number along with a \$10 check made payable to:

**If you do not specify type of back, you will be sent the pin type.*

Ken Luse,
979 Ascot Dr.
Eugene, OR 97401



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Membership Chair

Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association
979 Ascot Dr.
Eugene, OR 97401

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A Nonprofit Organization Article II:
"Purpose - To promote, preserve and perpetuate 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".

We're on the web:

www.OregonOldtimeFiddling.org

www.ootfa.org

State Calendar

May 4-7	Silver Lake Campout	
May 19-20	Nevada State Fiddle Contest,	Eureka NV
June 15-17	Burns Quarterly Meeting and Camp-out	
June 19-24	National Oldtime Fiddler's Contest,	Weiser, ID
July 17-20	Fiddle Camp	near Oakridge
August 5	Willamette Valley Fiddle Contest,	Corvallis
Aug 17-20	Winchester Bay Camp-out	
September 7-9	Central Oregon Country Music Gathering	Prineville

New Members to Welcome!

Craig Boekenoogan	Salem	Christia, David, Lorlei & Abigail Hein	Sherwood	Brooke Shafer	Florence
Carolyn Cobern	Forest Grove	Shirley Lorentson	Redmond	Michael Vandenberg	Gold Beach
Laura, Harvey, Shaamia & Taylen Deen	Eagle Point	Jessie Lotts	Medford	Dianne Wilke	Salem
Joyce & David Furlong	Keno	Dan & Linda McLucas	Lebanon	Dennis Will	Salem
Seth, Jill, William, Rachel, Isaiah,		Rhonda Patten	Portland	Laura Williams	Klamath Falls
Bonnie, Eli & Joshua Garner	Independence	Glenn & Heather Riba	McMinnville		
Sophie Glew	Portland	Lisa & Jonathan Schachter	Salem		

A MESSAGE FROM PATTI LUSE, STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The **2017 Roster** is available now for \$3 each. You can have it mailed directly to you by sending \$4 for a roster (which includes shipping costs) to: Patti Luse, 979 Ascot Drive, Eugene, OR 97401.

- If you get the Hoedowner in the MAIL, PLEASE let us know if you are going to be away. They DO NOT forward 3 & 4th Class Mail (even if you put in a forwarding card to the PO). When we send the Hoedowner to you, it will be returned to us for 49 cents. So...when you go away, please let Patti Luse know ahead of time the exact date you leave and exactly when you are due back for your regular mail delivery. The Hoedowner is mailed around the 23rd - 27th of the month.