

# Junior Hoedowner

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# Welcome Again

.....to all young fiddlers in Oregon and your friends. Many of you will have participated in the Oregon Old Time Fiddling Contest in Salem. We all want to thank you for entering the contest.

Recently an OOTFA member expressed his appreciation to Rob Griswold for what he has done and what he is doing. Rob lives at Lyons, Oregon - east of Salem. Here is what he wrote:

Hi Rob.

.....Firstly, I want to congratulate you on becoming an Eagle Scout. Becoming an Eagle Scout is a lot of work and a major achievement. I know because my twin boys (who are grown now) liked the fiddle solos in a Shania Twain CD and are both Eagle Scouts. This is a high honor and achievement not obtained by many fellows, so you can be very proud of this worthy distinction.

Secondly, I want you to know that your fiddle playing at Friday's (4/6) OOTFA show was outstanding, and now that I have the DVD of the show, I can enjoy your performance many times again. You are a very talented young fiddler.

Thirdly, I was very impressed with your bluegrass breaks at the April 1 jam. You have a natural talent with bluegrass licks and improvisation so I hope that you continue fiddling while you are in college. Studying the Music Business at the University of Puget Sound is a great career, and with your musical talents, you will do very well in that field.

So congratulations on all of your achievements, and I hope that I see you at a future OOTFA event in the summers and/or

can do some jamming together at Ken's music store during your college breaks.

Very truly yours, John Shafer (Thanks, John, you say it well for all of us.)

# Mary English

Let's learn about a talented young fiddler from Medford, Oregon.

- 1. Name: Mary English
- 2. Family: no brothers or sisters, but one very cute little dachshund!
- 3. How long she has been playing: Since age 6, in 1999...so going on 8 years now!
- 4. What got her started playing the fiddle: She wanted to learn to play herself.
- 5. What person inspired her the most: Natalie MacMaster.
- 6. Where she got her fiddle: Sam Stelle (District 4 Old Time Fiddler) passed his fiddle on to her.
- 7. Her favorite tune: Changes every time she learns a new one...so far some have been Swallowtail Jig, Roy's Rag and Hamilton County Breakdown.
- 8. Where does she play: Sometimes at Jams, once a month at Fountain Plaza.
- 9. School -- grade: Mary has been home schooled since pre-school, but next year will attend South Medford High school for her freshman year. She is 13, but will be 14 in July.
- 10. Where was she was born: Medford, OR
- 11. Any fiddle camps? Lessons? Some lessons (about 2 years) in both fiddle and classi-
- cal. Has been to the Booher Fiddle camp one

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#### summer.

12. Any relatives that play? Mom learned the fiddle the same time as Mary. Dad plays guitar.

13. Any other music -- piano, school band? She's just started learning a little guitar. Next year she is signed up to be in the school orchestra. She played in the orchestra at the grade school for 2 years.

## Besides lessons,

Mary has learned a LOT from going to the "5 o'clock jammers" weekly fiddle group. Judy McGarvey and Don Lindsey have given much time and knowledge in sharing tunes with everyone and most of the songs she plays have been learned from them. Mary's other favorite thing besides fiddling is ballet and she loves to perform in the Nutcracker every year at Christmas time.

### A Fiddle Tune for June

This is another classic tune. Listen to how others play it. You might try transposing it to a different key.,

