

THE HOEDOWNER

1971 Sept

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August has been a memorable month, with many fiddle contests and shows. I don't know how I am going to thank all the fine people who helped our organization during the month, but I am going to try. First, to all the fiddlers and accompanists who played in the shows our Association put on, my heartfelt thanks. To all who helped sponsor and arrange and put on oldtime fiddle contest, thanks a million. These contests spread the wonderful sound of oldtime music, and they let more folks know that the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association exists and that we want them in it if they love our music.

I just returned from a fun-filled week-end at the Canyonville oldtime fiddle contest and the very successful jam session in Coquille the next day. Geroldine and Fred Virtue were helpful in seeing to it that the meeting was successful. They deserve a lot of credit. Wilma and Bud Ryan had a house full of fiddlers and guests Saturday night. I don't know how many people were there but their house must have bulged at the seams. They really put themselves out in feeding and putting up so many people, and I thank them for their hospitality. There must have been at least a dozen fiddlers and 7 or 8 guitar players jammed into their front room. We started fiddling after supper, I called it quits at 2 a.m. Some die-hards didn't give up 'till 5.

I am glad to announce a couple of things that are planned for the near future which I hope will be for the betterment of our organization. One is the coming meeting Sept. 18 in Corvallis. This is something I've hoped for, a get-together on Saturday. We will have our program just as always at 1 p.m., have our pot-luck evening meal, then have more fiddling after our meal. If this is the success I hope it will be, we can have more meetings on Saturdays during the winter and spring when there are very few fiddle contests. If you like this and want to see it continue, come to our meeting in Corvallis Sept. 18th.

The other encouraging thing to report is that it looks like a southern Oregon District Fiddle Organization will come into being. This will be a group within our group and not a separate organization. I asked Don Gish, Fred Virtue, Russell Hall and Bud Ryan to set up a meeting time and invite all the people in that part of the state who want to have a southern district to come, and as soon as Don can get settled in a place (he moved to Medford the middle of August) this planning meeting will take place. I am very hopeful about this, because this will mean that the many fine fiddlers in the southern part of our state will have regular meetings within reasonable distance, and they'll remain members of the Oregon Association.

Our extremely capable editor tells me we now have 428 members. I'd like to see every one of you in Corvallis at our next pot-luck and jam session.

It seems that people need to be frequently reminded that for an item to appear in the newsletter it has to be sent in to the editor by somebody. So my last word for this month is: SEND IN THE NEWS.

WAYNE HOLMES

CORVALLIS JAM SESSION SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18.

Our next potluck and Jam Session will be held at the Senior Citizens Center in Corvallis, Sept. 18. This will be our first Jam Session to be held on a Sat. afternoon, and our Pres. Wayne Holmes is hoping for a successful turn out, so we may continue to have Jam Sessions on a Sat. now and then. It's my understanding that Washington Fiddlers always have their Sessions on a Sat., and their very Successful.

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