

THE HOEDOWNER

June 12, 1967

COMING EVENTS

June 18 – A potluck dinner and jam session will be held at the VFW Hall in Salem. The location is 630 Hood Street, On the corner of Hood and Church streets just off Fairground road.

June 21, 22, 23, and 24 – Weiser, Idaho of course.

July 1 – Our contest at Molalla. This should be one of our best contests of the year.

July 14 – A contest at Cottage Grove, another big one. This contest has been carried on for several years and is always a big show so don't miss it.

We have several more shows and contests on the list for this summer but have no definite dates set for them as yet. These dates will be in the next HOEDOWNER.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

L. A. Powers of Eugene has found us a place to have our July Potluck and jam session and we will have to decide on this at our next meeting.

Have you given any thought to a convention for this year. If you have not, why don't you think it over and let your officers know what you think about it.

FIDDLING NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST

This item from Marshal Jackson, Gresham, Oregon.

It was very hot in late afternoon on Saturday, May 20th. But on the back patio at the John and Alyce Bruhl Ranch at George, Oregon, seven miles north of Estacada, it was even hotter. The moon glistened in the heavens above Squaw Mountain and the tall fir trees listened to the music that filled the mountain air. John Bruhl, fiddle, Leonard Fullwider, guitar, Marshall Jackson, banjo, and Gus Steres, drummer, put out the finest music those squirrels and chipmunks have ever heard. Believe it or not, John played a Chinese Hoedown, and even sang the words in English. Gus is a Greek drummer who'd rather eat than play. But even the fine music played didn't bring any of the nudists up from the camp near Squaw Mountain. All we got was a few birds to fly by and chirp at us. But we kept playing; hoping someday someone will come along who likes to listen to our music. Perhaps that won't happen in this present world, boys.

While Alyce and Mildred, Gus's wife, made ready the big feed, we tried to play pieces that would whet the appetite. That shouldn't have been necessary tho! Can you really eat more than eight servings of spaghetti and meat balls, Gus: We had a lovely thin going, but time ended too soon for us all.

Now that you have heard how the Jacksons do at Gresham I will tell you how the Bukers do at Waldport.

A short time ago on a warm Sunday night the Bukers were invited to a Little Church to spend a Social evening with the group, and of course bring our fiddle and piano. Just imagine, if you can, a fiddler playing at church. A part of the evenings entertainment was a very interesting scenic film. The film was late in arriving and we had to entertain them with the fiddle and piano while they waited. Soon we ran out of church music and settled down to waltzes, schottisches, polkas, and at last, hoedowns.

The little church was a little way out of town and it was a warm evening to the windows were left open to let out the worst of the noise and when the hoedowns started the insects lost their appetites and stopped biting then moved out. The birds all deserted their nests in the shrubbery, the snakes threw their tails over their shoulders and headed to the woods and the termites all dropped from the woodwork, mostly dead, and believe it or not we are invited to come back again some time soon.

The Canyon City Contest was a great success and we should be very proud of our friends, the Eastern Oregon Fiddlers Association.

Your editor was too busy judging to get a very accurate story on the outcome of the show but I will do the best I can.

First place went to Lloyd Wanzer, second to Rusty Modrell, third to Harold Allen, fourth to Jimmie Miller, fifth to Allen Rice, sixth to Pete Haynes and seventh place went to a very nice lady from Twin Falls, Idaho. Her name has escaped me but I believe her first name is Lonnie.

At a later date I will have a more accurate account of the contest. There was a contest of seniors, County, Eastern Oregon, Beginners, and Open. Who all of the winners were I can't recall at this early date.

In all there were at least thirty contestants and it took two long evenings to run them all through the mill, but it was very good entertainment and lots of fun.

My congratulations to Clay Claughton and also Pete Haynes, Ray Sherwood, Rod Davis, and many others that I can't name at this time, on the way the contest was successfully managed, and on their first try.

THIS SECTION IS DECIDATED TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND

The HOEDOWNER is intended to bring the fiddling news to all of the members so they will know where the action is and when. We want a record of what you have been doing and what you are going to do so we can pass it on to the others. If you will send it to me I will try to get it in the HOEDOWNER.

Next, we want to talk about judging. It is very understandable that nobody wants to judge a contest, also we all want fiddlers for judges. We have, up to date, just nine fiddlers that are willing to judge a contest. We have just two choices, choice number 1 – volunteer your services as a judge. Number 2 – go back to being judges by non-fiddlers such as people who know nothing about fiddling.

Judging a contest is not a pleasant thing at the best. Naturally everybody enters the contest to win but they can't all win and some of the will be disappointed and the best way to discourage people from judging is to complain to the judge himself. Your complaint should go to the management and to the judge.

STARING WITH THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE HOEDOWNER!!!

THE NEWS WILL BE SENT TO ALL WHO ARE PAID UP MEMBERS!!!

If you are in good standing and should not happen to get the paper and your dues are paid just write to me, Cliff Buker, Box 163 Waldport, Oregon 97394, and I will send it to you. Remember, even I can make mistakes.

COMMENTS ON OUR FIDEDELING CONVENTION

It seems to me we could pass a few rules and resolutions that would improve fiddling contests and it is our duty to do all we can in this way. We have a new member in our Association, Earl Willis at Grants Pass. He is a fiddler and in my opinion we should go into southern Oregon and try to get a Fiddlers Association in that area as well as eastern Oregon.

This thought brings us back to the convention subject and the sooner we have our meeting the better our Association will work. So lets get together next Sunday, as many as can, and talk it over.

It is not farther from here to Eastern Oregon than it is from Eastern Oregon her but it is too far to go at regular times. The same thing goes for southern Oregon. It is just too far to drive regularly but if we have the Association going we could get together once or twice a year and maybe get a lot stronger working organization.

FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

Five years ago when I first became interested in fiddling, the Idaho Fiddler's Association was quite new and still the only organization in the northwest of its kind, as far as I know.

Today, Montana, California, and Washington all have good active Associations. Oregon has both the eastern and Western Oregon Associations, and the western section has a membership of about 200 members and growing every day.

Well, I guess I will close the office for tonight, and if I don't see you at Salem Sunday, June 18 I will see you at Weiser June 21.

Cliff Buker, Editor and President

Oregon Oldtime fiddlers Association