

March 1968

QUIPS FROM THE SECRETARY: The first jam session of the year was truly a success at Sherwood on February 18. We of the Association thank Ed Gorham for arranging this month's get-together. If the members wish to have a session in their home town, contact Mr. Gorham at 6710 S. W. Pine, Portland, Oregon, 97223.

We are sending this Hoedowner to paid-up members who have not as yet paid the \$1.00 extra for the newsletter. Please send the Secretary the extra dollar soon.

Let's welcome the following new members: S. G. Blakklob, King City, Oregon, Tony Descombez, Hillsboro, Amos Fine, Walla Walla, Washington, Frank Knight, Paradise, California, Ivan McDaniels, Long Creek, Oregon, James Reed, Sherwood, Oregon, Robert Morby, Underwood, Washington, and Wesley Bronson, James Ramsey, William Wilson, and W. F. Rounsavell, all of Portland, Oregon.

SALEM: The Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association is now registered with the Corporation Division of the Department of Commerce of the State of Oregon as a non profit organization, registered Feb. 8, 1968.

Our next pot-luck and jam session will be at the 4-H Club building at the Polk County fair grounds at Rickreall, on old highway 99. Don't forget the date - March 17th.

See you all at Rickreall the 17th. Incidentally, I'll try and dig up a green tie.

Donald Leith, President

McMINNVILLE: Stanley Edwards, Clarence Greenlund, and Al Williams played for the Stabler's Rest Home on February 10, 1968. Nell Turner from Amity accompanied the fiddlers and then played several selections on the piano.

SENECA: On February 11 the Eastern Oregon Fiddlers had a nice potluck and jam session at Roy Kilpatrick's hideaway above Mt. Vernon. It was well attended. The following week-end there was a hillbilly jamboree at Seneca with most of the fiddlers and pickers providing the entertainment.

Bonnie Baker

SHERWOOD: Following the monthly potluck dinner of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddler's Association on February 18, a jamboree was held with Mr. Don Leith, President, acting as Master of Ceremonies. After the jam session, a period of dancing was enjoyed. The following fiddlers were introduced and rendered their favorite numbers: Ray Mack, "Pop" Powers, Bill Weber, Charlie Johnson, Rusty Knight, Fred Hilderbrandt, Bill Wilson, Ray Abbey, S. G. Blakklob, Warren Gray, George Berge, Jimmy Miller, who also acted as accompanist on his guitar, Mervin Dickerson, Cliff Buker, Clarence Greenlund, Stan Edwards, Roy Rath, and Agnes James, who also acted as accompanist on the piano. Others accompanying the fiddlers were: Bessie Buker, Ed Gorham, Marshall Jackson, Mr. Cieoah, a newcomer and friend of Mr. Berge, as well as Mrs. Berge on the piano, Mrs. Eva Caldwell, Jim Garland, a friend of Ray Abbey, and Frank Warner.

Mrs. Nell Turner entertained the audience with some ragtime numbers on the piano during intermission.

Mrs. Don Hawes

FOREST GROVE: The 1968 "fiddlin' contest" season got off to a flying start February 24, at Forest Grove with one of the biggest contests ever. There were 10 entries in the senior contest and 20 entries in the open contest with the following results: Seniors: 1st-Cliff Buker, 2nd-Charlie Johnson, 3rd-Bob Hawes. Open contest: 1st-Harold Allen, 2nd-Loyd Wanzer, 3rd-Rusty Modrell, 4th-Jim Miller, 5th-Bill Yohey. There were entries from Oregon, Idaho, and Washington. Vivian Williams and the Tall Timber Boys really "brought down the house" with their between-rounds performances. These folks are top-notch entertainers and a welcome addition to any show.

Feb. 1968 - Ruth Low

FOREST GROVE: Dear Fiddlers, We of the Ballard Town Boosters do certainly appreciate the fine turnout of fiddlers at the contest at Forest Grove this year. It was one of the finest contests that I have ever attended and I hope all the fiddlers are as happy about it as I am. If there are any suggestions from anyone as to how to make this contest a better one in the coming years, please let me know. Again, my sincere thanks.

Floyd Parson, 2523 17th Ave.

HILLSBORO: Jimmy Miller, local fiddler, musician and entertainer, made two personal appearances at the recent Barber Shop Ballard Contest and Show. Then on March 2nd, entertained at the Odd-Fellows Installation at St. Helens, Oregon.

McMINNVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yohey entertained a group of "fiddlin" friends at their home February 24. Those attending were Loyd Wanzer, Dave Frisbee, and Allen Rice from Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Don Gish and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thomas from Washington, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Roy School, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Buker, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Church, Rusty Modrell, and Rusty Knight. All enjoyed Edna's turkey dinner and Bessie Buker's now-famous crab salad was a special treat.

PORTLAND: Cliff Buker, Charlie Johnson, Jim Miller, George Jenkerson, Harold Allen, Larry Modrell, Rusty Modrell, Violet Modrell, Bill Durham, Marshall Jackson, and Bill Yohey played for the Steelheaders Show on March 1st in Portland.

TILLAMOOK: Rusty Modrell, Bill Yohey, and Bill Durham played for the 75th Anniversary of the Masonic Lodge in 'Neah-Kah-Nie' High School March 3rd.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- March 30 - Farm Bureau Spring Frolic Dance, Prineville, Oregon-Rusty Modrell Orchestra
 - April 6 - Fiddlin' Show, Davis High School Auditorium, Yakima, Washington
 - April 20 - Fiddlin' Contest at Tillamook, Oregon
 - June 15 - Fiddlin' Contest at Canyon City, Oregon
 - June 19-22 - National Contest, Weiser, Idaho
 - July 6 - Oregon State Contest at Molalla, Oregon
 - July 19 - Fiddlin' Contest, High School Auditorium, Cottage Grove, Oregon
- "Sheriff" Bill Jenkins of Redmond will M.C. this show!!

Details of these events will follow in future issues of the Hoedowner.

OFFICERS-OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSN.
 President: Don Leith, Salem
 Vice-Pres: Bob Hawes, Bend
 Sec. Treas: Bill Yohey, McMinnville

OFFICERS-IDAHO OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSN.
 President: Harold Sundvik, Lewiston
 Vice-Pres: Hassell Vargason, Aberdeen
 Sec. Treas: Kathryn O'Connor, Moscow

A few months ago we told our Hoedowner readers that it that "fiddlin' man" wouldn't write his own biography, just let their wives do it for them. And Bonnie Baker of Seneca did a fine job for us with the following:

Jimmy, at 30, is a relatively newcomer to the fiddlin' world, but no doubt he has enjoyed this music field to the fullest measure. Ten years ago...with more time than money, (isn't that the way of the world?) he started to play an old "dollar-two-ninety-eight" fiddle his aunt had given him. Three months passed and he felt it was time to do a little trading for a good fiddle.

Not long afterwards, Ray Sherwood moved into the logging community we were living in and it wasn't long until Ray and Louise almost had a permanent house guest. Ray played the fiddle like he was a real believer that "everyone should fiddle a little". Many a winter evening Jim and Ray passed, by Ray showing Jim a pretty old waltz or some catchy hoedown.

In 1964 with the declaration, "You gotta start someplace", Jimmy entered his first contest at Canyon City. He placed 5th, followed by 3rd place in 1965, and 2nd place in 1966. In June of 1967 he brought pleasure to his wife Bonnie, and two little daughters, Celeste and Renee, by placing 1st at Canyon City, 3rd in Eastern Oregon, a 1st and 2nd at Baker, and 2nd place in the new Heppner contest last November.

Jim is so busy having a good time and visiting with friends at the contests that he nearly forgets the competitive part. We have to stay close to home in the winter because Seneca takes the word "winter" to heart. But spring finds us anxiously looking forward to the Fiddlin' Season and a chance to renew friendships among the friendliest family of all... the oldtime fiddlers.