

THE HOEDOWNER

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

August will be the last month this year that we will have an extra Jam Session. Details of this additional meeting in Coquille will be in this Hoedowner, along with information about our regular meeting in Lincoln City on the 15th. These extra get together sessions in the southern part of the state have been quite well received and we have added many members to our group. I hope that we will have several meetings in the southern part of the state every year from now on. While on the subject of meetings I want to let everyone know that we are going to try having at least one of our regular jam sessions on a Saturday this fall or winter, to see how it works out. There are some advantages to having a jam session on a Saturday, the principal one being that you can stay later, and in fact, we could have one in the afternoon and evening if we wanted to. Of course during the summer the Saturday meetings might conflict with a contest, so we can't try it then.

Also scheduled this month are several fiddle shows. Our Association has been asked to provide fiddle entertainment for the County Fair at Canby both on Friday, Aug. 13, and Saturday, the 14th. We are also going to play at the Steam Festival at Brooks on Sat. Aug. 21. The fiddlers and accompanists who play at these events will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers treasury, because they have pledged to give substantial contributions to our group for furnishing our good oldtime music. Don't forget the fiddle show at Rickreall on Friday night Aug. 20. We won't get any money for this but it is an obligation we must take care of, as it is in exchange for the use of the Fair building for our convention last March.

I want to extend my personal thanks, and as president, the thanks of the entire Oregon Fiddlers Association to the following fiddlers and accompanists who so generously gave of their time and talent by playing at the American Legion Hall in Sheridan for the "Phil Sheridan Days" celebration: Fred Virtue, Bill Yohey, Sue Walker, Don Haynes, Ludwig Gimm, Del Anderson, Joe Humfleet, Clarence Greenlund, Ron Gimm, Valdemar Nelson and Charlie Johnson and Ed Gorham. This show was held just a few days before the National contest at Weiser, and we didn't get a chance to acknowledge these fine folks until now.

Verneda Weber, who has a real talent for writing, has agreed to accept the responsibility of writing and assembling the history of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association. My thanks to her for taking on this task.

Many thanks are also due Charlie Stovall and his helpers who provided the buffet dinner and assorted liquids to go with it after the Far West contest at Cottage Grove. Real thoughtful of you Cottage Grove folks to do this for the fiddlers, and we want you to know that we appreciate it.

I hope to see all of you at Lincoln City on the 15th, and as many as can possibly make it to Coquille on the 29th. A WORD OF EXPLANATION: Some people have asked why Billy Warwick won the Junior Division at Cottage Grove when he picked the strings on his last tune. The reason is that the last appearance of the Juniors in the evening was simply to give the audience a chance to hear them play. The judges did not score that round.

WAYNE HOLMES

OUR NEXT REGULAR JAM SESSION Aug 15, NORTH LINCOLN GRANGE HALL

Our next regular Jam Session and pot luck will be in the North Lincoln Grange hall in Lincoln City. To get there turn away from the ocean at the mobile service station off of Hwy 101 in the old town of Delake, go down that road about 4 or 5 blocks and the Grange hall is to your left. We have had a couple of jam sessions there in the past and it is easy to find. Don't forget your favorite dish and your own table service.

