

THE HOEDOWNER

FEBRUARY 1974

OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS NEWS

OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION

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FROM THE EDITORIAL STAFF

Taking on the editorship of a publication always seems to bring with it the impulse to experiment and innovate. We've got some ideas about features we want to try for the HOEDOWNER, of course; and we assume you may have some ideas about what you want from the Association's newsletter. So let us know: let us have your comments on the ideas discussed below. And when we try out a new feature, tell us what you thought of it. Tell us about your ideas . . . all the ones we didn't get around to thinking up ourselves. . . about news coverage, features, policy — it's your newsletter. Reader response does produce effects. Martha Warwick suggested that a map of districts would be useful, and there one is, right on Page 3 of this issue.

Meanwhile, let me tell you about a few of the new ideas we've been contemplating, so you can think about them and talk them over with us. Every now and then somebody writes a letter to the HOEDOWNER that sparks some interesting dialogue — Marshall Jackson and Kenny Brank, I recall especially, have started such letter exchange-discussions. So we're thinking of trying to promote some issue-oriented discussions in the HOEDOWNER pages, using some combination of reprinted complete letters from readers and compiled articles which survey and quote opinions/ideas which you might send us in response to a question or problem posed by the editorial staff or any reader, for that matter. So if you want to see a discussion of, or have an idea about, say old-timeness and Texas-style fiddling, contest judging, etc. let us know.

We may run some personality sketches — both in the OOTFA and across the country there are lots of people whose lives and music-making would interest other people — and goodness knows it's hard enough to find out about all the worthwhile people, just in the state association.

Lots of people in the association have special knowledge that might be useful to other people, which they would be willing to share. For instance, does anyone know a sure-fire method of fitting fiddle bridges? Would somebody who understands the new law governing the tape recording of records be willing to explain it? If we know about anyone's special knowledge, we might invite them to do an article. But we don't know everybody all that well, so don't wait around — volunteer.

It looks as though the HOEDOWNER might get more technically sophisticated in the near future, so that we could print tunes. If we did, what do you think — should we limit tune-printing to the preservation of old tunes, or should we also print new tunes? Of course, it's a question whether old-time fiddlers should have anything to do with printed tunes in the first place. But in defense of printing tunes: a printed tune is sort of like a collected butterfly — it's dead, but seeing it sure helps you recognize the next live specimen you run into, and a dead butterfly will stay still long enough that you can examine how it's put together.

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COMING EVENTS: The Hectic Season's Here

FEB 10	Dist. 8 Jam Session, McMinnville Grange	McMinnville
FEB 10	Dist. 4 Hosts State Jam Session, Jerome Prairie Grange	Grants Pass
FEB 16	Dist. 1 Jam Session, Equitable S & L	Klamath Falls
FEB 17	Dist. 7 Jam Session, 82nd & Cornwall, Kendall Grange	Portland
FEB 23	Contest, Balladtown	Forest Grove
FEB 24	Dist. 6 Jam Session Convention Meeting Whiteaker School	Eugene
MAR 3	Dist. 6 Jam Session (State) Fairmount Grange	Albany
MAR 17	Dist. 4 Jam Session, Community Center	Grants Pass
MAR 22-23	Annual State Convention, Fairgrounds	Eugene
APR 7	Dist. 1 Hosts State Jam Session	Klamath Falls
APR 24	Dist. 4 Jam Session	Yreka, Cal.
MAY ?	State Contest, date unsure, but keep it in mind.	
MAY 19	Dist. 4 Jam Session	Canyonville
JUNE 18-22	National Contest	Weiser Idaho
JULY ?	Far West Fiddle Contest	Cottage Grove
AUGUST 25		
-SEPT 2	Campout	Warwick Ranch, Williams

District 6, Eugene HOSTS JAM SESSION-CONVENTION MEETING

FEB 24 - Convention chairman George Stout has called for a meeting of all convention workers at 10 AM at Whiteaker School, 21 N. Grand, Eugene. At 11 AM, there will be a District 6 Business Meeting for purposes of electing 1974 officers. Potluck at Noon. Program at 1 PM. All planning to attend should bring sweaters for personal comfort and a muffler for your fiddle, because the school district cuts the heat COMPLETELY on week-ends due to the energy crisis. However there will be heat, Permission has been granted to heat the place ourselves with whatever system and fuel we can figure out. Anybody have suggestions? The Date Again — FEB 24th.

FOREST GROVE ELKS TO SPONSOR FEB 23 CONTEST

Balladtown's Eighth Annual Old-Time Fiddlers' contest will open at 1:30 PM, Saturday, FEB 23, at Forest Grove, Oregon — temporarily Balladtown, U.S.A.

According to Floyd Parsons, spokesman for Forest Grove Elks Lodge No. 2440 prizes will run as follows: General fiddling first place — \$75 and trophy; second place — \$100 and trophy; third place — \$75 and trophy; fourth place — \$50 and trophy; fifth place — \$25 and trophy.

The senior division, open to fiddlers 65 and over, will carry the following prizes: First place — \$50 and trophy; second place — \$30 and trophy; third place — \$25 and trophy. Junior division fiddlers will receive trophies for the first three places.

