

THE HOEDOWNER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES ISSUED 25th OF EVERY MONTH.
NOVEMBER 1975

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COMING EVENTS

Nov. 2	Jam Session	Buell Grange	Buell, Oregon
Nov. 9	Jam Session	City Hall	Talent, Oregon
Nov. 16	Jam Session	Moose Hall	Roseburg, Oregon
Nov. 16	State Jam Session	Albany Sr. Cit. Center	Albany, Oregon
Dec. 20	Christmas Party	OOTFA Only	Jerome Prairie, Oregon
Dec. 21	Christmas Party	Sunnyside Grange	Sunnyside, Oregon
Jan. 11	Jam Session	Roseburg Fairgrounds	Roseburg, Oregon
Feb. 15	Jam Session	Central Point Grange	Central Point, Oregon
Mar. 14	Jam Session	Wymer Grange	Wymer, Oregon

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Jam session at Svenson was a high success and as most of you know the proceeds from this show will go to a very deserving member of our organization.

Each district is having a Jam session and I hope that everyone will work to make them a success. Thanksgiving will soon be here so let's all count our blessings and give our friends a little ray of sunshine.

Jim Secor

DISTRICT #1

A "get together" was held at the Merrill Recreation Hall, Oct. 11th. Good music, dancing, cake and coffee. There will be more of this on the second Saturday of every month at 7:30 PM at the Merrill Recreation Hall. Everyone invited.

Good Heavens!!!! A limbo artist with nine grandkids??????

DISTRICT #4

There will be a jam on November 16th at Roseburg in the Moose Hall, 1222 S.E. Stephens St. Doors will open at 10:30 AM with a potluck at noon and jam starts at 1:00 PM. Members please bring desserts to be sold to the public. Proceeds go to help one of our fellow fiddlers, so all who can, please come and help put on a good show.

Dorothy Houston.

This weekend most of District 4 and of course District 1 and probably others are in Yreka for a fun jam session. Ralph and Norma Dias are hosting the fiddlers in their own inimitable manner. Last weekend Oct. 12, we played to a full house in Central Point. We had 29 fiddlers and about 15 accompanists. Our fiddlers are playing Oct. 31st for the 50 and over club in Medford.

November 9th will be our regular monthly jam session. To be held in the Talent City Hall. Potluck at 11:30 and doors open at 10:00 AM.

November 11th the VFW would like fiddlers from 1 - 3:00 PM at the VFW Hall on Front St. in Medford. Call Fred Samples for details.

Dec. 20th, District 4 Christmas Party. \$1.00 gift exchange - Men bring a gift for a man and women one for women. The club will furnish the meat, coffee and punch,

members bring your favorite holiday dishes so we'll have a festive potluck. Stella will head the committee to decorate the hall and tables. We will sing some carols, play some music and have our dinner and gift exchange with dancing to follow in the evening. Those who have campers are welcome to camp at the Jerome Prairie Hall over night. The building can be left open all night. Sounds like a fun weekend. Jonas & Marg will be our Hosts.

Jan. 16th jam session at Roseburg Fairgrounds. Ralph & Dorothy Houston are hosts. Feb. 15th jam session, Central Point Grange Hall. We'll have election of officers at 11:00 AM, potluck at 12:00. Doors will be open at 10:00 AM. March 14th, jam session at Wymer, Laura & John Hoester will be hosts.

The address for the name pins in the shape of Oregon State with your name, district number and hometown is: Saxton's Engraving, 340 Cerritos Ave., Medford, Ore. 97501. Price \$1.75 postpaid.

Martha Warwick, Reporter

DISTRICT #5

We received a very nice letter from Les and Barbara McLeod after our deadline last month so a ll of their news you have heard but did want everyone who went to the Cranberry Festival and played to know how much they appreciated it. Barbara said they have signed up several new members so that they may have enough now to elect their own officers for their district. That is the best news of all and congratulations to District 5.

DISTRICT 6 NEWS

Despite what everyone may have thought, District 6 is still alive and fiddling-- you just haven't heard from us for awhile because of some communication mixups and some problems with the U.S. Mail. This report is getting hand-delivered.

District 6 is sponsoring a state jam session, Nov. 16th at the Albany Senior Center and it is a super important one. We're using the money collected at this session as a benefit for some of our members who have had a run of illness. If you can't make it to Albany, plan to go to the District 4 jam session in Roseburg. To get to the Senior Center, take the City Center-Albany exit from I-5 and find 489 Water Ave. N.W., "right downtown, you can't miss it", according to Don Loring. I always get lost on directions like that. Plan to inquire at a filling station.

NOTE: There will be no potluck because a church meets there till noon. Hall opens at 1:00 PM, show at 1:30.

We'll try to avoid too much ancient history, even though there is some catching up to do. But we recently found out about a regular event that many of you might like to know about. The Lowell Grange sponsors an old-time dance the first Saturday of each month. And they want live fiddlers. On Oct. 4, Stan Gonshorowski, Ben Moore, Jim O'Bryant and Bill Wilt and a host of unsung heroes -- the accompanists, of whom I recall only Addie Gonshorowski's name, played for the dance. They played round dances, a few Virginia reels, got fed cake and coffee, and met a few other fiddlers who aren't members of the OOEPA. So -- come on out to the Lowell Grange Hall the first Saturday of any month.

Since this news got old, we'll omit the details about the Sept. 28 jam session at the Sweet Home Elks Lodge -- but the place was beautiful, the turn-out of fiddlers large and varied, and as ~~for~~ the crowd, I didn't know there were that many people in Sweet Home, let alone fiddling fans!

Just to speed things along, if anyone has District 6 events or news to report, please send the items directly to me at 655 E. 32nd, Eugene, 97405. You'll be hearing from us, if, as some of my relatives used to say, God willin' and the creek

don't rise. Or the Post Office loses anymore reports.

Linda Danielson,
Dist. 6 Reporter.

DISTRICT #7

On October 11, Bill Yohey was the entertainer at the Elks Lodge at McMinrville. His accompanists were Stan Gleason, June Secor and Penny Mead. Other guests were Jim Secor, Ed Mead, Wayne and Evelyn Walter and Bob and Dulcie Fast. A nice barbecue was enjoyed at the home of the Yohey's.

October 15th several fiddlers and accompanists were invited by the Brasketts to entertain at the Minnehaha Grange in Vancouver, Washington. Later, everyone jammed at the Braskett's home.

October 19th a big jam session was held at the Warner Grange at New Era. A big pancake breakfast was furnished by the members of the grange. There were so many entertainers, I won't mention names, but it was a terrific turn out.

October 26th District 7 had their jam session at the Wickiup Grange at Svenson. It was the first time we've ever had a session in the Astoria area. We had a big turnout and the place was jammed. Players came from all over, and several from over in Washington came to help. Thanks to all!

Bob Fast, Reporter.

DISTRICT #8

I personally want to thank all who took part in the show, especially Clarice Sission and Mabel Kyler who supervised the kitchen and Ray Sissions for his good job as MC. Gertrude Bradbury and Pat Grogan for their vocal numbers, they were really enjoyed very much. The hours of dancing to the music of the Oldtime Fiddlers was also a delight. It was a good audience to play to and a pleasure to do so. They have a lot to do to make the show a success. Thanks again.

Guy Kyler, Chairman

We are having a jam session at the Buell Grange, November 2nd. Doors open at 10:00, potluck at 12:00, program at 1:00. This is a donation jam session for one of our fiddlers, so let's all turn out and make it a good jam.

MARSHALL JACKSON

Our Fiddler and Accompanist for the month of November

Marshall was born in Regent, North Dakota, September 4, 1911, the eldest in a large musical family. His parents were both music lovers, his father played a mouthorgan and his mother a pump organ. Marshall heard old-time fiddling from his early days, having listened to Warren Grey, now deceased, playing fiddle for old-time dances, but when he was 7, Marshall's family moved away from Regent and he lost contact with old-time fiddling for a time.

Marshall became "hooked" on fiddling in 1927 when he heard his friend Guy Sharpe playing in the old hotel in Halliday, North Dakota. He coaxed his dad into trading a load of prairie hay for an old beat-up guitar. He purchased an instruction book for 5 cents and with the aid of his friend, Ed Stockland, he learned to play.

From that time on, Marshall was in touch with old-time fiddling, but was not active in it until April 1966, when he attended a fiddling contest in Tillamook, Oregon and joined the Oregon Association.

Marshall is an accomplished musician, having played accompaniment on guitar, mandolin and banjo for various dance bands and musical groups through the years, but it wasn't until 1967 that he purchased his first fiddle and started learning to play it. At his age that was not easy, but with hard work he was able to accomplish a

fair degree of ability and has won several trophies; a second place in a contest at Canyon City, a second at Baker, a third at Enterprise (all of these in intermediate division) and also a fourth in the "opens" at Enterprise.

Marshall has won two first place and one second place "Best Liked Accompanist" awards at the national contest in Weiser, Idaho for guitar accompaniment.

Marshall and his wife, Sarah, are the parents of seven children. He has worked at varied trades during his life and until he lost his sight in 1963 was a Tektronix supervisor in Portland. He is very much in demand as an accompanist especially by the champion fiddlers who depend upon the strong pure chords of guitar to back them up at the contest. Many other accompanists in the Old-Time Fiddlers Association are very grateful to Marshall for his patience and help in getting them started. He especially enjoys working with young children.

Marshall has a firm conviction that "Everybody Should Fiddle A Liddle" and has adopted those words as his motto.

Minnie Bennett, Historian.

ATTENTION ALL FIDDLERS AND ACCOMPANISTS

In the September 1972 issue of the Hoedowner, I requested a short history or biography of each musician who is a member of our organization along with a small picture or snapshot.

The response has not been overwhelming. Perhaps you've not had the time to respond or have not understood what was needed.

Following is an outline you may fill out or use as a guide to write your own biography.

May I hear from you soon?

MINNIE BENNETT, Historian
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McMinnville, OR 97128

BIOGRAPHY

NAME:

WHERE WERE YOU BORN?

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN OREGON?

FAMILY: WIFE'S NAME AND NO. OF CHILDREN.

HOW AND WHEN DID YOU GET YOUR FIRST INSTRUMENT?

WHAT TRAINING, IF ANY HAVE YOU HAD?

WHAT MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS DO YOU PLAY?

WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING IN PUBLIC?

WHEN AND WHY DID YOU JOIN THE OLD-TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION?

TELL ABOUT YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HONORS AS A MUSICIAN.