

THE HOEDOWNER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
 DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES ISSUED 25th OF EVERY MONTH.
 FEBRUARY 1977

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COMING EVENTS

				District
Feb. 5	Jam Session & Bus. Mtg.	Merrill Rec. Hall	Merrill, Ore.	1
Feb. 6	Jam Session & Bus. Mtg.	Warner Grange	Canby, Oregon	7
Feb. 12	Jam Session	Odd Fellows Hall	Vancouver, Wn.	
Feb. 13	Jam Session	High School	Myrtle Creek, Ore	5
Feb. 19	Contest	Clark County College	Vancouver, Wn.	
Feb. 20	Jam Session & Bus. Mtg.	Comm. Bldg. Jr. Aud.	Coquille, Ore.	5
Feb. 27	Jam Session & Bus. Mtg.	Buell Grange	Buell, Ore.	8
Mar. 5	Contest	Ballad Town U.S.A.	Forest Grove, Or.	
Mar. 6	Jam Session	Moose Lodge	Cottage Grove, Or.	4&6
Mar. 18 & 19	State Convention	Lane County Fairgrounds	Eugene, Ore.	
Apr. 17	Jam Session		Talent, Ore.	
May 14	State Contest	High School	Bend, Ore.	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The State Jam session at Roseburg was sure a good one, good crowd and a good show. We sure enjoyed it. It also was nice to get together with good friends.

Once again, I hope we will have a good turnout at the State Convention. I know that our State conflicts with the show at Tenino, Wash. but we will change that after this year.

Keep on Fiddlin. Jim Secor

NEWS OF CONTESTS AND GOINGS ON IN AND AROUND THE STATE:

CLARK COLLEGE NORTHWEST FIDDLE CONTEST

Some of the nation's top fiddlers and country dancers will assemble at Clark College, February 18 and 19 for the Second Annual Clark College Northwest Fiddle Contest and Exhibition in Vancouver, Washington. Performers for the Friday's exhibition at 8 p.m. in Gaiser Hall, include Dick Barrett and Benny Thomasson of Pottsboro and Arlington, Texas respectively, who between them have captured the national championship title at the Weiser, Idaho contest for the past four years. Thomasson won in 1974; Barrett the other three years.

Hank and Sandy Bradley will be at the Clark College show too, demonstrating fiddling styles of the Southeastern United States and Eastern Europe. Sandy will be on the program again Saturday afternoon calling square dancing.

Timberbound, an old-time string band, will sing songs of the Oregon woods, and Arthur Billingsley, the transplanted Pine Bluff, Arkansas septuagenarian musical saw player who now calls Portland home, will also appear.

The call is out for fiddlers to compete for \$750 in prize money and trophies in four divisions: Junior, intermediate, senior and open. Registration for the contest begins at 10:am Saturday, February 20. Junior division preliminaries are set to start at 12 noon, with the finals scheduled for 8:pm. Weiser rules will be followed. All events except Saturday afternoon dancing will be in Gaiser Hall, according to Dottie Krzyzanoski, coordinator of student activities at Clark College, 206 (694-6521.

A variety of American country style dances will be taught and demonstrated. Lisa Ferrel will lead contra and Morris dancing and the Marysville Cloggers will be on hand to show off their old timey brand of high steppin!

Assisting Clark College with the sponsorship of the event is the Seattle Folklore Society and the National Endowment for the Arts. Last year's event was successful far beyond expectation, promoters indicated.

Admission for the various sessions is as follows: exhibition: \$2; preliminaries and dance, \$1.50; finals, \$2; all events, \$4. Children and seniors 65 and over are admitted for half fare.

Contest judges are nationally recognized fiddlers: Barrett, Frank Ferrel, and John Melnichuk. Bill Yohey, a former national champ from Oregon, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Dick Barrett and Benny Thomasson will also appear at the following places during February.

1. Salem - Boon Treasury, Sunday, Feb. 20th, 6:30 and 9:15 Shows. Address - 888 N.E. Liberty. A price of \$5.00 includes a hearty soup, dinner and beverage. This place has good food.
2. Eugene - Eugene Center for the Performing Arts, Tuesday, Feb. 22nd, 7:30 and 10:30 PM. Address - 291 W. 8th (W.O.W. Hall) \$3.00 Advance \$3.50 Day or Show.
John Ullman

FOREST GROVE FIDDLERS CONTEST

Dear Fiddling Friends, We wish to extend to you again this year an invitation to participate in the Ballard Town tenth annual Old-Time Fiddlers Contest to be held Saturday, March 5th starting at 1:30 PM at the Forest Grove High School Gymnasium in Forest Grove. Sign up at Floyd's Music Center as usual.

Prize Money:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Open Division	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Senior Division	75.00	50.00	25.00		
Junior Division	50.00	30.00	10.00		

See you then, Floyd Parsons

Our neighbors to the north have invited anyone that would like to come to a jam session on Feb. 12th at the Odd Fellows Hall in Battleground, Washington. Directions to get there are to go to the red flashing light in Battleground, turn left 2 to 3 blocks. Hall in on right hand side, North Parkway. Potluck at 6:00 PM playing to start at 8:00.

NOTES FROM OUR SECRETARY:

The Board of Directors meeting was held at the State Jam Session in Roseburg, with all active districts represented. After some discussion about the purchase of property, a committee of John Melnichuk, Fred Samples and Les Tucker was appointed to look into all legal aspects. They will report at the convention.

Dropping our affiliation with the National Fiddlers Association was discussed, with most present in favor of withdrawing. This will be voted on at the state convention meeting.

Some plans were made for our convention. The show will again be Friday with tickets to non-members \$2.50. Business meeting Saturday afternoon followed by a banquet and dance. Cost of the banquet is \$3.00. Jim Secor, Jim Hoots and John Melnichuk are in charge of the show. The dates are March 18 and 19.

I've been asked to remind everyone of the pot-luck dinners held for our members before most of our jam sessions. Please remember to bring your own table service, as well as your food.

If your dues were sent to me before the 25th, your membership cards should be in the next Hoedowner. If for some reason you don't find it, please contact me. If your name or address is incorrect, please let me know so I can correct it. Thanks, Edna Yohey, Sec. 934 N. Davis, McMinnville, Or 97128

DISTRICT #1

Sunday, Jan. 9th we entertained at two nursing homes, Washburn Manor and the Ponderosa. Saturday night the 15th we had our monthly get-together and pie supper. Not too large a group, but we had a real good evening. Sunday the 16th, some of us had the pleasure of attending the State Jam at Roseburg. Lots of good fiddlers and accompanists and a packed house. People standing in the doors listening to the music. The 23rd we played for the County Nursing Home here and the Holiday Motel for Senior Citizens. A good month for our district in spite of cold weather and bad roads.

Saturday night, Feb. 5th, we will have our monthly get-together and business meeting. We will elect our officers for the coming year. Let's have a good turnout. Also we will present some awards for the past year. Ladies bring desserts, pie or cake. Start eating at 7:00 PM. Public invited at 8:00 PM. Merrill Recreation Center, Merrill, Or.

See you there! Lee Eddy, Reporter

DISTRICT #4

Martha's letter did not make it to Portland, lost in the mail so we took what information we could over the phone. Martha said they had a wonderful turnout at Roseburg, better than expected with 37 fiddlers and many accompanists. All active districts represented with over 200 people attending. Martha Warwick exceed the first half and Wayne Holmes exceed the last half. She was unable to attend the business meeting but the news of that is elsewhere in the paper. See you all at convention.

Martha Warwick

DISTRICT #5

There will be a jam session in the Fr. Auditorium of the Coquille Comm. Bldg. on Feb. 20th. Doors will open at 10:00 AM, meeting and election of officers at 10:30. After the meeting, potluck and finger foods. Coffee will be furnished. Doors to open to the public and show at 1:00 PM. Hope to have a jam at Bandon on the 13th of March. More details on this later. Anyone interested in coming over the day before the jam in Coquille, please feel free to do so.

Geri Virtue, Reporter

DISTRICT #6

On March 6th there will be a combination business meeting and potluck and jam session at the Moose Hall in Cottage Grove. Doors open at 10:00 AM and jam starts at 1:00 PM. I urge district members to be there to elect new officers.

DISTRICT #8

Not too much to tell this month. Didn't get to attend the Roseburg State Meeting, but understand it was a good meeting and a good party and dance Saturday evening. Our Feb. meeting will be at Buell Grange, Feb. 27th. Hall opens at 10:00 AM, potluck at noon and program at 1:00 PM. We'll have our election of officers. Let's all turn out, election at 11:00 AM.

See you there, Bea Smith, Reporter

I would like to express my thanks to everyone for the cards and phone calls during my recent stay in the hospital. I am getting along much better and thanks to everyone for your concern.

Wayne Walter

Our Fiddler For The Month of February 1977

WILLIS "SHORTY" ALLEN

Willis was born at Bandon, Oregon on June 4, 1910. His family moved to the Monmouth area when he was 3 months old and there he has lived for 65 years.

Willis, better known as "Shorty", helped his father on the farm, also worked in the timber and sawmill, but for the last 27 years until retirement, he has worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad. Shorty was born into a musical family and most of his musical training came from his father who was a fiddler. At a very early age Shorty used to "play" with his father with two sticks, pretending they were his fiddle. Seeing how interested he was and as soon as he was old enough, his father let him use his fiddle, and in a very short time Shorty was able to play a few tunes by ear. Later, Shorty's father bought a piano and taught him to play chords on it. He played accompaniment to his father and uncles at dances and other entertainment in the area.

After Shorty and Vinge were married, he decided he wanted to play an accordian. He sent for one and taught himself to play it. He joined Ray Mack's Pioneers and played his accordian for dances every Saturday night. Since Ray passed away in December, Shorty has kept the group together and they are playing regularly every week in Salem. The Allens still live in the Monmouth area. They joined the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers shortly after it was organized. They had attended a Jamboree in Corvallis and enjoyed it so much they joined the association that day. Shorty is a very friendly person with a ready smile. He loves to play music and is very generous with his talents. He plays piano, organ and fiddle besides his accordian, and is a very welcome addition to any program.

Minnie Bennett, Historian