

THE HOEDOWNER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION
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OCTOBER 1977

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COMING EVENTS

				DIST.
Oct. 2	Jam Session	Sunnyside Grange	Sunnyside, Or	7
Oct. 2	Jam Session	Rogue Comm. College	Grants Pass, Or	4
Oct. 8	Jam & Business Meeting	I. W. A. Hall	K Falls, Or	1
Oct. 16	Jam Session at Coquille	has been CANCELLED		5
Oct. 16	Jam Session	Talent Comm. Hall	Talent, Or	4
Oct. 16	Jam Session	Elks Lodge	Sweet Home, Or	6
Nov. 6	Jam Session	Senior Citizens Cent.	Gresham, Or	7
Nov. 13	Jam Session	Grange	Wimer, Or	4
Nov. 13	Jam Session	Buell Grange	Buell, Or	8
Dec. 10	Xmas Party	Jerome Prairie Grange	Jerome Prairie, Or	4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As our summer fiddling activity draws to a close, I look back and am overwhelmed in realizing how many of our membership gave of their time and efforts to make our summer activities such a success! We should all take pride in the results of these efforts.

Campout was a huge success this year and I think I can speak for all who attended in thanking Martha and Red for hosting such a grand enjoyable event.

A State Board meeting was held on Saturday at the campout with all districts represented. Please contact your respective chairman for details of business discussed.

Another special thankyou is in order to Linda Danielson in connection with her efforts in establishing and coordinating the Fiddlers, Displays, etc. The program given the public at Jacksonville was a tremendous success with standing room only - Linda, from all of us, THANK YOU.

John Melnichuk

SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE WASHINGTON OLD TIME FIDDLERS ASSN.

We want to thank all the fiddlers from Oregon who came up and helped us with our Grandview fiddle show on Sept. 17th. Some came a long way and we really appreciate it.

Thanks again, Sam & Betty Herd, Sec. WOTFA

EDITORS NOTE:

It seems that many of our districts are not paying attention to the calendar of events as to when other districts have previously set up jam sessions. This has created some hard feelings, especially where two jams are held in two adjoining districts. Each district needs support of all other districts to make up a good jam for the people who are coming to listen. Please check before making plans for your next meeting.

Thank you, Evelyn Walter

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 1:

Our next jam session will be at the I. W. A. Hall, located on Altmont Dr. in Klamath Falls on Oct. 8th. Business meeting will begin at 6:30 PM, Potluck at 7 PM. Jam session to follow.

Our picnic on Sept. 18th at Malin Park was lots of fun, many people, good good and a great time was had by all. Several of us went to the campout and we also have played at several nursing homes this month.

Les Tucker

DISTRICT 4 CAMPOUT NEWS & Etc.

District #4 fiddlers entertained for the Talent Festival in Talent on Sept. 17th. Jonas and Marg Cox hosted the event and entertained the fiddlers afterward in their home. Marg sure knows how to fix a party meal! Fiddlers never let a little rain dampen their spirits! In the parade our fiddlers took 1st place. What a fun day.

The 7th annual campout went by all too fast. The weather was superb - never too hot and the evenings were mild. Each evening during the program everyone enjoyed delicious cobbler made fresh each day by the good cooks in camp.

The fiddlers entertained one day at a nursing home, on Thursday of campout week, they played in Jacksonville for the museum, on Friday and Saturday they played at the fruit stand in payment for the delicious produce we enjoyed all week.

The culmination was our wonderful potluck on Sunday. After dinner some of those who lived quite far left for home. From then on there were goodbyes until Thursday morning.

The lost and found had only a blue plastic dishpan and Mary Holmes cake pan.

The next jam session for district #4 will be at Rogue Community College. Fiddlers and seconds please come by 12:30. There will be no potluck at this jam session. (Sept Hoedowner erred. Rogue Community College is in Grants Pass, not Roseburg.) Sorry! Ed.

On October 16th there will be a jam session at Talent Community Hall. It will be the usual potluck, doors open about 10:30. During the dinner there will be a business meeting. Doors open to the public at 1:00 PM. Jonas and Marg Cox, Hosts.

Novembler 13th our jam session will be at Wimer. Laura Hoerster will be our hostess.

District #4 annual Christmas Party will be at Jerome Prairie on Dec. 10th. Stella Neathammer will be party chairman. If you can help her please let her know.

There will be a gift exchange, \$1.00 to \$1.50. Bring your most festive dish and your table service. Plenty of room for overnight camping. We hope to have lots of guests from other districts. Doors will be open by 10:00 AM. Twill be a Merry Christmas for all.

Martha Warwick, Reporter

DISTRICT #5

Our jam session on Oct. 15th has been CANCELLED because of conflicting dates with our neighboring districts, without their support we feel, fiddlers and listeners alike, our jam session would not turn out well. We will still have our meeting on Saturday night the 15th of Oct. at the VFW Hall in Bandon. Potluck will be at 6 PM, meeting at 7 PM. This meeting is to plan our Christmas Party. Jam session to follow.

Jeri Virtue, Reporter

We received a note from Ernest Allen asking us to mention that John Allen also rode on the float in Gold Beach. This was an oversight on our part and we want all of our young fiddlers to know we appreciate their help.

DISTRICT #6:

Our jam session at Albany turned out to be one of the bigger and better ones. How nice to attend one when the experience is so enjoyable for all.

Our next one: Oct. 16th at the Elks Lodge in Sweet Home. Doors open at 11 AM. Potluck at noon. Music to start at 1 PM. The jam at this location has always been so

well attended we feel specific directions unnecessary. However, if you plan to enjoy it for the first time, a quick quiry from any local business will get you to the building. Mark this one on your calendars and don't miss a fun time.

Poco Boyd, Reporter

DISTRICT #7

We are having a jam session at the Gresham Senior Citizen Center on Nov. 6th. Doors open at 10 AM Potluck at noon, open to the public at 1 PM.

DISTRICT #8

The Sept. 18th jam session at Buell Grange was a good one. We had 19 fiddlers and many accompanists, also several specials. Thanks to all that participated in making it a good show. I didn't do any "Pickin & Grining" due to a bout with bursitis, but I'm back at it again, having fun as usual. Attending the Cranberry Festival from this area were Minnie Bennett, Nell Turner, Martin Vaeller, Jeanette & Dave Robinson and Bea Smith. Many thanks are sent to our hosts' the Los McLeods and Al Livelys'. We all had a great time. The jam session on Sunday was excellent with a beautiful duet of "Whispering Hope" by Cliff Bukor and Jim Morris.

Nov. 13th will be the next jam session at Buell Grange. Doors open at 10 AM Potluck dinner at noon and program at 1 PM. Hope all will attend.

Bea Smith, Reporter

OCTOBER FIDDLER OF THE MONTH

ALTA BANCE

Alta Bance of Medford, Oregon was born in Missouri, April 28, 1898. She was the daughter of a fiddler, John W. Calhoun, and a member of a family of nine children. Their home was in a farm area near a sunner resort where the father played for dances and other entertainment.

Alta was one of the five children who were interested in playing the fiddle. She started sawing on her fathers' when she was about nine years old. At about that time, an older sister sent for a mandolin that had a chart on the fingerboard. By using that, she learned the positions which later came in handy when she started playing fiddle.

In 1911, Alta's brother taught her the music notes. Later she took five or six lessons on the mandolin from Bernard Wendt, arranger for the Shakespearean plays. She also took a few lessons from a music teacher and in 1971, she joined a Senior Citizen orchestra with whom she still plays.

In 1972 Alta joined the Oregon Old-Time Fiddle Assn. She decided she'd better play fiddle if she were going to be a good member. In 1973 she was mentioned in the "Hoedowner" as playing with Ivan Shuck's group.

Alta had played fiddle only about three years when she played before an audience of between five and six thousand at Lithea Park. She received a standing ovation for playing "Chinese Breakdown". She later went to Yreka and signed up for a contest. She won second in general fiddling which came as a great surprise to her.

Alta is a pert little bright-eyed lady with white hair. She loves music and plays her mandolin and fiddle with great enthusiasm. Her music is lively and full of pep, and she always is rewarded by great appreciation from her audiences,

Minnie Bennett, Historian