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THIS IS YOUR LAST HOEDOWNER IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES

CALENDAR (Be sure to read the district news for the specific times, places and activities.)

Dec.

6 Roxy Ann Grange Medford 4
 7 Villa West Mobile Estates 1
 7 VFW Redmond 3
 7 Moose Lebanon 6
 7 J.J. North's Grand Buffet Portland 7
 13 Community Center Winston 10
 14 Jam and Dance 1
 14 Senior Center Burns 9
 19 Sizzler Restaurant 1
 20 Senior Center Coos Bay 5
 20 Senior Center McMinnville 8

2004

Jan.

3 Grange Eagle Point 4
 4 VFW Redmond 3
 10 Willamalane Senior Center Springfield 6/state
 18 Senior Center Gladstone 7
 11 Senior Center Burns 9
 17 Senior Center Coos Bay 5
 17 Senior Center McMinnville 8

Feb.

1 VFW Redmond 3
 7 Roxy Ann Grange Medford 4
 7 Contest Gaston
 8 Senior Center Burns 9
 8 Adult Center Canby 7
 21 Senior Center McMinnville 8

March

7 VFW Redmond 3
 14 Adult Center Lake Oswego 7
 31, April 1, 2, 3 State Convention Roseburg

April

4 VFW Redmond 3

May

2 VFW Redmond 3
 21 - 22 State Contest Chemeketa Salem

District 1

Chairwoman: Faye Patterson 541-798-5973

Co-chairman: Don Fitzgerald 541-850-3146

Sec/Treasurer: Grace Stork 541-884-5313

6909 Tingley Lane, Klamath Falls, 97601
Happy Holidays Everyone !

Hope you all survived Thanksgiving and your favorite football team did well. Now we can look forward to getting ready for the holidays. Whether its Christmas, Chanukah or Kwanza – this is my favorite time of the year. Decorations make things look so festive, there is so much good food to eat and everyone seems to be in a great mood.

Speaking of good times – please plan to attend our Christmas Dinner on Friday, Dec. 19th at Sizzler Restaurant, starting at 5:00 p.m. You'll be on your own to order off the menu, but because we have reserved the Banquet Room, we can bring our instruments! Wow, what a party that's going to be! We will need a final head count, so please call either Faye at 798-5973 or Don at 850-3146 and let them know by Dec 7th if you will be coming. It will be so much fun – I'm even giving up my employer's dinner the same night just so I can be with fun fiddler people and play my Bass.

December is fairly quiet as far as scheduled events. We really only have our regular meeting at Villa West Mobile Estates on Sunday Dec 7th, and our Jam and Dance on Sunday Dec 14th. And of course, now our Christmas Dinner on the 19th.

A friendly reminder that you need to get your membership dues sent in by Dec. 15th) if you haven't already. Payment can be mailed in, or bring it to the meeting and save yourself postage. You certainly don't want to miss out on any important news from your ace field reporter in District #1 now do you?

Those us able to attend the Potato Festival in Merrill in late October had a great day. It was terribly windy, but patrons at the beer garden danced and clapped to our tunes anyway. Holly Fields, from the Civil War Reenactment group sang some period songs with us, We then packed up and traveled to a nearby barn, where we provided background music for the Greg Walden reception. He enjoyed it a lot, and mentioned that his wife had recently started practicing her violin again. After that, some of us were still in a musical mood, so we then adjourned to Faye & Isom's house for some additional jamming. What a memorable day.

AT our November Jam & Dance, Steve Curry joined us, singing and playing his guitar. We had lots of great goodies to munch on. It seems to be working out better when we just bring cookies and snacks for the 2nd Sunday sessions.

Prayers and concerns go out to Irvin Johnson, who spent some time last month in the hospital. Get well soon Irv. Also, please keep Jerry & Irene Ruddick in your thoughts as Jerry's twin brother's health is failing.

Our December birthday belongs to: Irene Ruddock (we just don't know which day to celebrate) and the only Anniversary prize goes to: Jerry & Irene Ruddock on the 18th. Congrats !

That's about it for now. Keep those fiddlin' fingers happy and warm and hopefully we'll see you sometime this December. Have a wonderful Holiday season, and drive safely wherever you travel. From your friendly
District #1 field reporter – Fran Coker.

District 1E

Chairman: Shorty Stone 541-947-3825
Co-Chairman: Alan Bell 541-947-4479
Treasurer/Sec: Sharilyn McLain 541-947-4623
Membership: Bev Perry 541-947-2334

No news this month.

District 3

Chairman: Rick Brumbach 541-389-6037

Co-Chair: Dale Anderson: 541-382-9094
Sec/Treas/Membership: Earlene Ervin
6189 N.E. Wainwright Road
Prineville, OR 97754
541-447-5451

Lets bring in the Joy and Love of the Holidays in the New Year 2004 with music. :o). We would like to thank our visitors Theron Yochelson who plays mandolin and wife Betsy who plays guitar and bass from Sweet Home for coming and playing at our show.

Dates to remember and put on your calendar; Dec. 7th, Jan. 4th, Feb. 1st, March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd for the VFW in Redmond. Redmond Library practice jam will be on Dec. 9th, Jan. 20th, Feb. 10th, and March 9th. If you want to share your music and practice with other be there! :o) Our next VFW Show is December 7th. Hope to see all members there at 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come and warm up the dance floor. We encourage all members to be at the meeting to follow the show.

District 3 will have a Christmas Potluck party December 13th at the Pine Forrest Grange Hall. Located off of Boyd acres road in Bend. It will start at noon and end at midnight!!! That is if anyone can stay awake after eating a big Christmas meal. :o). Anyone that wants to help out can be there at 11:30 am. Earlene will put you through the work task. :o). We encourage all members to bring your utensils and instruments. We will eat at 1:00 p.m. then play music and dance. So bring your dancing shoes and let's get into the Christmas mood!!!

Reminder: MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE!!!!. Please send dues to Earlene Ervin if you want a Hoedowner in January 2004. Must be paid by December 15th.

District 3 will keep all who are sick in our prayers and wish fast recovery and May God Bless You. We would like to celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries with lots of love and Old Time Music. Hope everyone has a great Christmas and New Year 2004. MUSIC IS IN THE HEART AND SOUL!!!! :o)

Ellen Jakab District 3 Reporter

District 4

Chairman: Gene Williams 541-560-3230
Co-Chairman: George Dow 541-770-6949
Sec/Treas: Judy Lyons 541-056-0618
Membership: Marie Mickey 541-512-9345
4074 S. Pacific Hwy 19
Medford, OR 97501
Mildred Kelsey, Publicity

A cool, crisp day with a forewarning of winter greeted us at our November jam at the Rogue River Senior Center. Visitors included Joe and Laura Ellison from Grants Pass, visitors of Frank and Mary Ann, and Shirley Ross of Grants Pass, who came with Tommy Mendez. As always the musicians played and sang, the dancers danced, the toe-tappers did their thing, and the "clappers" enthusiastically showed their appreciation! What fun! We will have a meeting on December 6 at Roxy Ann Grange. This is our Christmas party with turkey, ham, and all the fixin's. Check with the kitchen folk to see what they need for you to bring to make it truly a feast!

We were saddened to learn of the death of Lois Jenkins, a fiddler and former member of the district. She had been living in Ashland. Many of the old-timers remember her wonderful fiddling and devotion to teaching music to youth. Bill Gandy had bypass surgery and is now in the rehab center at Highland House in Grants Pass. We miss his great voice singing those wonderful gospel songs. Also, Marie Mickey, our faithful membership chairman, has been in the hospital with

a recurrent congestive heart problem. Peggy Hudson's husband Jerry has been ill with serious asthma difficulties. Best wishes for a quick recovery to all those who are ailing! We miss you!

Small groups of our musicians have been playing regularly at our many monthly venues. It keeps us busy, and makes us practice more. Our audiences always ask, "When are you coming back?" I think it's because they want to hear us again, but maybe not??--but we seem to have more audience every time we play. Our community service hours for September numbered 106! That's a lot of rosin and guitar picks. We have recently picked up two new places to play in Medford. Our fame is spreading.

I wonder: Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do "practice"? Would a fly without wings be called a "walk"? If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

Reporter Judy McGarvey, District 4

District 5

Chairman: Ken Jordan (541) 902-9240

Co-Chair: Larry Gallagher (541) 572-2742

Secretary: Kathy Nash (541) 902-1981

Treas/Mem: Sharon Gallagher (541) 572-2742

2030 King Lane Myrtle Point OR 97458

The OOTFA cookbook still needs lots of recipes in order to have a printed cookbook. As of the writing of this Hoedowner, we have almost 100 recipes. I would like to thank those people who have contributed to date. We need 250 recipes to have a reasonable cookbook. I have placed the recipes we have received online at: <http://www.winfinit.com/~weiners/cookbook/>

Please take a look and send your recipes to me at ootfacookbook@yahoo.com or mail to me at PO Box 261, Florence, OR 97439.

In order to have a cookbook ready to sell in time for our annual convention in Roseburg, we need to have all recipes in my hands no later than December 15, 2003.

If everyone waits until then to send them to me, we probably won't be in time, as I probably won't be able to get them all in the format the publisher needs if I have 100 all at once on December 15th to enter.

Hal Weiner

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It is hard to believe that year is almost over!! We wish all of you the warmest of holiday greetings and hope that you all have a wonderful New Year!!

Our holiday potluck and jam at the Winchester Bay Grange was an overwhelming success. What an incredible turnout!! We had over 75 attendees. All of us walked away with a belly full of food and head full of great music! Over 25 musicians entertained an enthusiastic audience. We were pleased to have visitors from both District 10 (Darlene & Jim Smith, Guy Kinman, Jo Barnes, Bob & Jean

Hansen, Martha & Harold Rogers, Joyce Pickett, Dan Vallier, Maryann Tarvers, Ruth Kobel and Harry Germanhausen) and District 6 (Helen Tracy, Alice McDowell and Bob Byers).

We want to thank Kathy Nash, Ken Jordan and Sharon Gallagher for cooking the turkeys and ham this year. Thanks also go out to Sharon Gallagher and Charlotte Dow for organizing and cleaning the kitchen!

Not only did we have great turnout, but also signed up two returning members. Welcome back to Eugene & Barbara Greger from Florence. They were members in 2002 but not 2003.

The new approach to our jam sessions seemed to be well received by everyone. We will continue this for one more month and then review it at our meeting in January.

Our next jam session will be at the Coos Bay Senior Center on December 20th. Our potluck will start at 12:00 noon and the jam will follow at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Our next district meeting will be at the Coos Bay Senior Center on Jan 17th at 11:00 a.m. We will be electing officers at that meeting, so please everyone plan to attend. We will have a potluck to follow with our jam starting at 1:00 p.m.

If you have not yet paid your dues, please send them to Sharon Gallagher before December 10th or you will not receive your Hoedowner in January.

We want to wish Happy Birthday to Paula "Cricket" Crowder on December 5th. Abbie Shafer would like to wish Keith Shaffar, her husband of 48 years, a VERY SPECIAL 72nd Birthday on December 10th.

Our warmest anniversary wishes go out to Grant & Mapril Combs on December 1st, Bob & Jerene Shaffar 17th, Charlie & Clirca Miller 20th, and Bill & Margie Wilkinson 29th.

We want to send get well wishes to Rose Johnson who has been in St. Catherine's nursing home. We also want to wish Johnny Davis a speedy recovery from his recent surgery.

Our fiddlers played at a few special events this last month. A small group played at the Florence Senior Center for Halloween. Ann Hasley would like to thank everyone who participated in the fund raising program for the North Fork Grange on November 7th. We helped raise \$200 to pay for heating oil for the winter and scholarships for local students.

For December our nursing home play dates include 12/3 - Ocean View and Heritage, 12/10- Inland Point & Ocean Crest, 12/12 - Bay Crest Village, 12/17- Oerding Manor & Myrtle Point Care Center and 12/24 -Life Care.

The jam session on Thursday evenings at the North Fork Grange in Florence has been changed to be from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

We hope to see many of you at the meeting in Springfield on January 10th. Until then Happy Holidays from all of us in District 5!!
Hal Weiner Reporter, District 5

District 6

Chairman: Joe Moyle 541-343-5894
Co-Chair: Oral Robbins 541-343-4005
Secretary: Betty Hawkins 541-746-5579
Treasurer: Bob Kaiser 541-687-8878
Membership: Mark Ratzlaff, 25701 Cochran Ct.,
Veneta, OR 97487
541-935-8506

DON'T DELAY--RENEW TODAY! Let this mantra sound in your ears. If you have not yet renewed, fire off a check for \$15 to Mark at the address above, or see him at the Moose Lodge jam on the 7th. You'll feel better about yourself, and will also receive the January Hoedowner.

We had a most excellent Thanksgiving potluck and jam at Crow grange this last month. Jack Crockett provided a wonderful deep-fried turkey, and Oral Robbins brought a fine ham. Many thanks to all the other great cooks, and to the Grange ladies for running the kitchen. This potluck should have gotten everyone's stomachs good and stretched for the big feast which marks this holiday--hope your Thanksgiving was a good one!

Our next jam will occur at the Moose Lodge in Lebanon on December 7 (Pearl Harbor Day). Music usually starts around 10:30 AM, and the Lodge will provide lunch. There is a good chance the Jolly Fat Man might drop in for a visit, so be good for goodness sake.

January will find our District hosting the State quarterly meeting at

Willamalane Senior Center on January 10th. Meeting starts at 11 AM, potluck at noon and jam to follow. This is a good opportunity to hear musicians from all over the state, and maybe steal--er, borrow--some hot licks.

We are sad to report that we lost another of our members last month with the passing of Ray Drayer. Our sympathies go out to Thelma and to his family.

We will certainly miss those fine duets he sang with Thelma at the piano.

In health notes, best wishes go out to Betty Hawkins who underwent another surgery last month, and to Lois Gabel who had surgery just a day before her 55th wedding anniversary--what a way to celebrate. Helen Tracy is still dealing with her eye problems as well as nursing several broken ribs. Her husband Wayne has just moved to a care center and would love to hear from friends. His address is Alpine Court, Memory Care Community, 3720 N. Clarey St., Room 156, Eugene, OR 97402. He is allowed visitors any time, and his 86th birthday is coming up on Dec. 18th. Helen would love to see him showered with cards from friends to make it a memorable day. Gary Lake has completed his first round of chemotherapy and is feeling quite weak as a result. Mark Carmickle suffered a heart attack in mid-November, and received three stints in his heart arteries and is feeling much better now. Best wishes for better health to all these folks.

Hal Weiner from District 5 is compiling a Fiddlers' cookbook, and is soliciting favorite recipes from members. If you would like to be included, send him your favorite. He hopes to have enough by mid-December to send to the printer, so don't delay. His address: PO Box 261, Florence, OR 97439.

December birthdays: Thelma Salley 12/1; Mark Carmickle 12/6; Rick Dobson 12/10; Marlene Chatoian 12/14; Wayne Tracy 12/18; Betty Hawkins 12/19; Lloyd Shriber 12/23; Oral Robbins 12/25; Richard Marino 12/27; Ellen Strelow 12/27. Happy anniversary to: Frank and Frieda Chandler 12/9; Bob and Ellen Strelow 12/17.

Happy Holidays and safe traveling!

Mark Ratzlaff, Reporter District 6

PS: Not district six news -- but I'll slip it in here: About 100 people turned up November 16 for another of the jams organized by Red Herndon at Jasper Grange. The highlights of the day were Chelsea and Delaney Norris, thirteen and fifteen respectively, who showed off their budding skills to a very appreciative audience. The grange ladies provided a tasty Thanksgiving dinner. Red also announced formation of the Willamette Valley Country Music Association, an organization similar to OOTFA except that electrified instruments are encouraged.

District 7

Chairman, Linda A. Easley, 503-235-1671

Vice-Chairman, Joyce Anders, 503-630-2510

Secretary/Treasurers, Barb Petrin-- 503-639-1688

Membership, Jackie Germundson 503-663-6851

31808 SE Victory Road, Troutdale, OR 97060

Special Events, Ida Colby, 503-557-8709

District 7 has new members this month: Pat Cach and Luell live both in Portland and at the Coast. Pat plays the gut bucket and Luell plays the spoons. Charmin Wainscott lives in Canby and is a fiddler. Let's be sure to welcome them as we meet them on the music road.

Chuck and Pat Gates want to thank everyone for their kindness and consideration during Chuck's recent hospitalization. All your prayers, emails, cards and calls certainly helped with his speedy recovery. It's all greatly appreciated. Thank you.

The Jam last month at the Molalla Adult Center was one of the best! Lots of audience and lots of terrific musicians make for a very successful day! A good time was had by all.

The holidays are upon us and the end of the year is almost here. It is time to start thinking about next year's officers and the changing of the guard. Consider the possibility that you might help with the smooth running of District 7 of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers.

If you haven't paid your \$15.00 annual dues for 2004 yet, your time is running out! Send your renewal to Myrtle Arnold today or bring it to her at our December holiday Jam at J.J. North's.

Sunday, December 7 will be our annual Holiday Jam at J.J. North's Grand Buffet at 10520 NE Halsey from 1 - 5 p.m. The cost will be \$9.90 per person paid at the door. You must specify that you are with the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers when you pay at the door so we can keep a count of the members. We must have 70 paying customers. We can set up our sound system and jam until 5 o'clock.

Friday December 12 from 2:30 - 3:30, we're needed at Meadows Courtyard at 13637 Garden Meadows Drive in Oregon City for some entertainment. They really like us here. Go south on I-205, take Exit 10, go up the hill to Beaver Creek Road and turn right, then turn left at the light on Molalla Avenue. Then go past two lights and turn right onto Garden Meadows Drive.

Sunday January 18, 2004 is our OOTFA monthly jam at the Gladstone Senior Center at 1050 SE Portland in Gladstone. I always go south on McLoughlin Blvd, then east on Arlington, left on Portland Ave. The Senior Center is on the left side 5 or 6 blocks up. The public is invited.

Thursday January 22, 2004 we're needed to play at the Royal Marc Independent Living Facility at 5555 SE King Road in Milwaukie. They need us to play from 12:30 to 1:30. Parking is in their lot around the facility.

Saturday February 7, 2004 The Gaston Fiddle Contest will be at Gaston High School, 306 Park Street in Gaston. There will be a Super Senior Category this year and rumor has it that there will be a prize for the best-dressed musician in each division. More to come.

Sunday February 8, 2004 will be our regular OOTFA jam at the Canby Adult Center at 1250 S. Ivy Street in Canby. Coming from Portland take 99E to Ivy Street and turn left (south). The center is on the corner of Ivy and 13th, left side of street. The public is invited.

Sunday March 14, 2004 will be our regular OOTFA Jam at the Lake Oswego Adult Center at 505 G Street in Lake Oswego. This is the jam that Jack Smith organized a number of years ago. While Jack is no longer with us, we carry on there in his memory. This jam is one of the best. The public is invited.

Yours truly would like to thank everyone for your concern and consideration during my recent surgery. All the cards and calls and emails are helping with my recovery. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Linda Easley For District 7

District 8

Chairman: Dennis Brutke 503-835-3723

Co-Chair: Jackie Stephenson 503-981-9324

Sec/Treas/ Chris Lang 503-982-6224

Membership: Jackie Stephenson

567 Leasure St.

Woodburn, OR 97071

Once again District 8 cooks did themselves proud at our Holiday potluck November 15th in McMinnville. The food tables were filled with tasty dishes of all kinds. No one went away hungry.

The jam had a big turnout of musicians, 35 signed up, and a large audience of listeners and dancers. It was good to welcome Curly and Allison Roberts to their first District 8 jam. Long time District 6 members, they recently moved to West Salem. Visitors included: Pat and Chuck Gates, Bob Huffman, Jeff Walter, Don and Ruth Loring, Thelma Drayer, John and Vicki Clark, Ace and Dorothy Wehus, Alan Ede, Gary and Vi Epperly, Robin, Dena and Brian Shaylor, Ernie and Joyce

Lovgren, Helen Washburn and Ed and Marion Spencer from Alaska (guests of Hardins). Shawnie, Steven, and Ronnie Dohman, students of Dale Colebank made their playing debut. Way to go kids. And of course our faithful district 8 members! We missed those of you who couldn't be there.

News about our members: Jackie Stephenson had back surgery recently. Keep on getting better Jackie! Don Simons celebrated his 90th birthday. He and Daisy were at our November jam. Good to have Harriet Modrell and her daughter Joy there also. Harriet is 88 years young! Lew and I were watching an old video taken at the Vernonia campout. Harriet and her husband Larry were there, as well as Larry's brother Rusty. Larry was our breakfast cook and his stories were as good as his pancakes and eggs.

December Jam will be at McMinnville Senior Center on SATURDAY Dec 20th. We will have a short meeting at 11:30 to discuss nominations for next year's officers. Those who want to, bring a brown bag lunch. In other words, no potluck. There will be coffee.

January Jam will also be in McMinnville. SATURDAY, January 17. If you are traveling through McMinnville north on the main highway -- after you have gone through the business district and start to go town, there will be a McDonald's on the left (north side of the highway), right there you turn right (south) on McDaniel St. and the Senior Center is a couple of blocks on the left. (east) The hall will open about 10:00 come and make a day of it.

Our new sound trailer is here! Whoopie! It arrived the day before our jam but Dale didn't have time to pick it up and set it up. It will be for "show and tell" at our next jam. It is "bought and paid" for and we are very proud of it.

Alice Holt, reporter

District 9

Chairperson: Julia Milleson 541-573-2206

Co-Chairman: Walt Cooper 541-573-3417

Secretary/treasurer/membership:

Rose Johnson 541-573-6237

Happy Holidays!

What a beautiful fall we've had. Lovely weather and wonderful jams. A handful of visitors were welcomed to the District 9 November Jam. Betty Chapman drove up from Christmas Valley to yodel a few tunes. From the north came Ivan and Punk McDaniel, Jim & Lola Johnson, Amanda, Ben and Ori Schaefer. Maynard Thompson humbly dropped in from the west to entertain and visit with son-in-law Darryle Woolever. It was quite a treat to have several younger fiddlers with us. First time playing at the jam in the under 7 age group were Ori Schaeffer and Talon Case. You all come back now, ya' here!

The December jam will be the holiday dinner. George Sahlsberg will cook the turkey. Volunteers are needed to help fill out the rest of the meal. (Contact Julia) Potluck items of salads and deserts will complement the dinner provided by the fiddlers. Get those seasonal tunes practiced up to share at the jam on December 14. Potluck at 1 with music to follow until 4 p.m.

Please mark your calendars: Dec. 14 Senior Center Burns, Jan. 11 Senior Center Burns, and Feb. 8 Senior Center Burns. Would love to see you there with us.

We are saddened by the death of Pat Scott in mid November. Pat was among the first of members in district 9 and was involved in organizing the High Desert Fiddlers Contest in the 1980's. Most of the centerpieces brought to state convention in the early years were created by Pat Scott, a talent we've never been able to replace.

Folks have been hitting the road for vacations before the weather turns. Ruel and Margaret Teague spent 3 weeks in Branson, Missouri visiting family and friends. Wayne and Rose Johnson also stopped in Branson on their fall travels. Hollis and Carol Real were in the county during elk season and enjoyed a visit with Julia Milleson at the local social club.....the grocery store. Janet

Braymen has had a lovely vacation staying at home. She will continue to work part-time in Portland for several months and hopes to take in the occasional jam along the way.

A Dodge full of folks headed over to Christmas Valley to take part in the Friends of the Library fund-raiser. Ruel & Margaret Teague, Julia Milleson, Janet Braymen & Walt Cooper enjoyed the evening playing along with everyone. Thanks to Betty Chapman for the kind invite.

Remember regular scheduled playing dates at the Aspens at 7 p.m. December 12 and Ashley Manor at 6:30 p.m. on December 15.

Janet Braymen Reporter

District 10

Chairman/ Membership:

Jo Barnes (541-459-4522)

255 Raintree Ave. Sutherlin, OR 97479

Co-Chairman: Chuck Hasty (541-673-2067)

Treas. Gynn Deaton (541-839-4501)

Secretary: Flo Sangsland (541-863-6864)

Seasons Greetings from District 10.

Our November Thanksgiving Dinner was great. We were glad to welcome some of our members who were unable to be with us for some time, they included Billy Doolittle, Opal Rust, Dennis and Thelma Allen and Betty Crosby. Other guests were Diane Spain and Gauriella Harmon. District 5 was represented with Jona Artz, Charlotte and Shorty Dow, Johnny and Nancy Davis, and Fred and Florence Grove. These guests contribute much to our music.

We will be having a Christmas Potluck December 13, 2003, at Winston Community Center, Winston, Oregon. There will be turkey and dressing furnished for the potluck.

We would like to wish "Happy Birthday" to Matthew Cluver. Also a big "Happy Anniversary" to Chuck and Genevieve Hanson, Dennis and Thelma Allen and Tracy and Ellen Smith.

May each and everyone have a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON and a NEW YEAR filled with GOOD HEALTH and HAPPINESS.

Reporter: Doris Dilbeck 541-672-6266 (doris042049@msn.com)

ED SED: By now some of us are on diets after our delicious Thanksgiving dinners and wondering how one day can put on so much weight. This month there will be several get togethers, parties and family gatherings celebrating our joyous Christmas season. May each of you and your loved ones have a blessed Holiday.

Marie & I went to the Western Open again at Red Bluff and as usual there were so many talented contestants and good entertainment. Contestants were from Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and California. Congratulations to all the Oregon contestants. It's always so enjoyable to see and hear such terrific fiddling. We had arranged to meet friends there that we use to work with and have not seen for over 25 years. They are Johnnie & Marie Upton and are full time RV'ers who have joined the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Assn. Johnnie is learning to play the fiddle and the hammer dulcimer and doing very well with both.

Enclosed is an excerpt from the History of Fiddling with permission from Olive Donaldson: "We puff and say we are old time fiddlers when, let's fess up, we are fiddlers. Some of our tunes are old. Some of us are old. Some of us are young, and there are also some young tunes out

there. But the bottom line is still that fiddling provides that social thread that binds all of us chillin' together. Music is another happy experience. We don't play all the time, but enough to pay attention to each other and tap our toes together. And to our youngsters growing up amidst all this, we can say this was true in the time when there used to be community dances. They didn't dance, sing and fiddle all the time, but enough to provide that warm feeling of togetherness and community of the human spirit."

Until next time, keep fiddlin',
Ed

From the editor: The other day I received a phone call from Curly Roberts saying that he was in a hardware store in Salem. A man came in and started asking around -- wondering whose car had the OOTFA bumper sticker on it. He finally located Curly and asked about our association. He has two young sons who play the violin but who are interested in fiddling. Curly called me to give me Jeff's phone number. I called and he called me back. Hopefully we'll have a couple more young fiddlers. It pays to advertise. Do you have a bumper sticker on your car?

Almost all the reporters have reminded you again to pay your dues -- if not this will be your last issue. Every year I write it and every year it happens -- somebody will give me a call after the first to tell me that something is wrong, that they did not receive their Hoedowner. Sure they wrote a check. OK, find the check and let me know. No, they can't find the check because they didn't write it. So, really, really, write that check, get it to your membership chairperson so he or she can get it to Myrtle in the middle of December. Hey, I told you so.

Congratulations to Mark Carmickle on his 80th birthday.

The other morning I thought, "You know, I haven't heard Wally Bloom's voice for a long time" so I dialed his number. I let it ring for awhile and nobody answered. I thought calling in the morning -- even though he is two hours ahead of us -- that I would catch him hovering by the stove to keep warm. Oh, well, I'll call him later.

Later that day the phone rang and it was the cheery voice of Wally. He must have "caller ID." We had a very nice visit talking about the weather, fiddles, playing, health and other important things. I joked that I didn't want to sell him anything, didn't want to buy, wouldn't ask him any favors -- just wanted to hear his voice. When we ended, he said, "Please give my regards to everybody down in Oregon. I think of all of you often." And we miss Wally and his fine fiddling.

The OOTFA cookbook still needs lots of recipes in order to have a printed cookbook. As of the writing of this Hoedowner, we have almost 100 recipes. I would like to thank those people who have contributed to date. We need 250 recipes to have a reasonable cookbook. I have placed the recipes we have received online at: <http://www.winfinit.com/~weiners/cookbook/>

Please take a look and send your recipes to me at ootfacookbook@yahoo.com or mail to me at PO Box 261, Florence, OR 97439.

In order to have a cookbook ready to sell in time for our annual convention in Roseburg, we need to have all recipes in my hands no later than December 15, 2003.

If everyone waits until then to send them to me, we probably won't be in time, as I probably won't be able to get them all in the format the publisher needs if I have 100 all at once on December 15th to enter.

Hal Weiner

ETTA POWELL: I became acquainted with Etta Powell through the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association and soon after assuming the role of coordinator of the Canyonville Pioneer Days Oldtime Fiddle Contest, I asked Etta to work at the score tabulation desk with Martha Warwick. This was in the early 1970's. She and Martha worked together for at least 20 years until Etta's eyesight became a problem.

Etta was one of the people responsible for holding a fiddle contest in Drain for several years. She had me help her with the details of running a contest and she and I did the tabulation. She was very efficient and served as Secretary for the Oregon Oldtime Fiddle Association for several years.

I remember enjoying a very nice weekend at Eldon and Etta's place many years ago. Several OOTFA members (Jim and I felt lucky to be included) were invited to bring their RV's and enjoy good food, great music, and visiting.

It seems the years have passed much too quickly and I'm having to say "Goodbye" to my friends much too often. Goodbye, Etta. I'm so glad to have known you. Gynn Deaton
Canyonville, Oregon

Next years Canyonville contest is Saturday, August 28, 2004. Remember how difficult it was to write "2000" and now we are writing "2004." I kind of miss 19. . . . though.

I had a pleasant surprise today 11-19 -- as all little kids must do, I was to clean my room upstairs before company came for Thanksgiving. When I was reorganizing some reel to reel tapes that Dulcie Fast had given me, I found a small tape that said "Tillamook Contest 1966." It copied it to a 45 minute cassette tape. It was like opening a time capsule. A bunch of pretty good fiddlers.

Gynn Deaton wrote recently that she had received a nice generous \$200 donation from District 6 for the Canyonville Contest. She wants to publicly thank District 6 for their donation. It makes the red numbers a lot smaller.

I believe that I wrote earlier that Linda Easley, Alice and I attended a planning meeting in Gaston. Such enthusiasm. They are sure looking forward to the second Gaston Old Time Fiddling Jubilee. Several of you had mentioned that you thought it would be nice to have a Sr.-Sr. Division since there were 20 in the Senior Division last year. I took your suggestion to the Gaston committee and it was suggested that there be a "Super Senior Division. Super being 70 and older with Seniors being 60 to 69. The other divisions will be Pee Wee, Jr.-Jr., Adult and then the Sr. and Super Sr.

I couldn't imagine how we could get judges like we had last year -- but we have equaled last year's judges (well, I think so anyway) -- Clara Murphy a top fiddler from Battle Ground, Wa., Eileen Witler from West Linn who has won her share of contests and Jay Dean Ludiker from Spokane -- fiddle teacher, author, and a great fiddler. I'll be handling the pre-registration. I'll have the specifics in the January 1st Hoedowner.

Contact Ace for videos. Ace Wehus 1024 S. Elm Court Canby, OR 97013 503-266-4144. Ace is working on a new DVD stressing "flag etiquette and history." Between the flag messages he needs old time music. He is looking for volunteers and will probably be asking for musicians to fill in about 21 spots. He will appreciate your help. Thanks.

LeRoy Sims -- new CD, the price is \$15 plus \$2 shipping. LeRoy & Shirley Sims, 831 Village Circle, Chino Valley, AZ. 86323. Or contact Lew -- that's me.

January 1st, 2004 Hoedowner: I'll get back to all of the reporters and contributors to the Hoedowners. Remember -- this time of the year we run into scheduling problems. The printer takes the week off after Christmas when our Hoedowner would normally be printed. Our schedule will be something like this -- and I'll be getting back to you -- but if you will get your news to me by Sunday evening, December 14th, I will take a vitamin pill and get it sent to the publisher the 15th and maybe it can be printed that week. And then addressed or what ever after Christmas. "Hello."

NEW MEMBERS FOR DECEMBER HOEDOWNER

1. Helen O"Clair---Burns
 2. Bud & Barbara Corwin--- LaPine
 3. Jerry Brown--- Eugene
 4. Lani DeRose--- Yreka, Calif.
 5. Pat & Luell Cach--- Portland
 6. Terry Kandle--- Garibaldi
 7. Bernadine Hatfield--- Dayton
 8. Linda & Paul Schaffer--- Salem
 9. Charmin Wainscott-- Canby
 10. Susan Mitchell--- Sisters
 11. Robert & Phyllis Shaffer--- Grants Pass
 12. Betty Campbell--- Medford
 13. Carl Rovainen--- Brookings
 14. Gary Rayer--- Eugene
 15. Suzanne Peterson--- Eugene
 16. John & Jeri Schindler--- Klamath Falls
- Myrtle

Lew