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

2004

Jan.

3 Grange Eagle Point 4  
 4 VFW Redmond 3  
 10 Willamalane Senior Center Springfield 6/state  
 10 Community Building Winston 10  
 11 Grange Hall Shasta 1  
 11 Senior Center Burns 9  
 17 Senior Center Coos Bay 5  
 17 Senior Center McMinnville 8  
 18 Senior Center Gladstone 7

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 Grange Hall Crow 6  
 21 Senior Center McMinnville 8

March

6 Community Center Rogue River 4  
 7 VFW Redmond 3  
 14 Adult Center Lake Oswego 7

April

4 VFW Redmond 3  
 8, 9 & 10 State Convention Roseburg

May

2 VFW Redmond 3  
 21 - 22 State Contest Chemeketa Salem

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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 New Year One and All !

We can look forward to the beginning of a fabulous New Year. Is it just me, or does it seem not that very long ago any year starting with 2000 sounded forever away, and now it's already 2004. Wow, time really does fly by these days.

December ended up having a few more events than we'd reported last month. We played at two retirement centers, and Jefferson Square Mall invited us to come and play Christmas songs on the 18th. At our December meeting, the members voted to change our Christmas Party location to a new restaurant called Toozers, at the Winema Hotel. So we went on Sunday afternoon on the 21<sup>st</sup>, instead of Sizzlers. We also agreed to send \$150 to the Food Bank to help during the holiday season to others less fortunate. Once we got to jamming, Fran debuted the Christmas song "What Child is This?" on her bass. That started the series of Christmas songs from others in the circle. It got to be fun to see what we could play that someone else hadn't already played! (Thanks everyone – it made my day – fc).

The January schedule is as follows: Villa West Mobile Estates on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Pelican Pointe at 12:30 for cake & ice cream on the 9<sup>th</sup>, and Shasta Grange on the 11<sup>th</sup>. We play again at Clairmont Retirement (upper level) on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Our January birthdays belongs to: John Rodgers, Al Nelson, Frances Hughes, Thelma Nelson, Jo Harris and Carolyn Rarden. Our only January anniversary belongs to: Grace and Lewis Stork on the the 15<sup>th</sup> celebrating their 64<sup>th</sup> year together. Definitely congratulations!

That's about it for now. Keep those fiddlin' fingers happy and warm and we'll see you soon in the new year. It's still winter out there so please drive safely wherever you travel. From your friendly District 1 field reporter – Fran Coker.

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#### District 1E

Chairman: Shorty Stone 541-947-3825  
Co-Chairman: Perry Forga 541-947-3116  
Treasurer/Sec: Sharilyn McLain 541-947-4623  
Membership: Bev Perry 541-947-2334

I hope you all had a joyous Christmas season, and are ready to start the new year with renewed resolutions, diets, etcetera. As I'm writing this (Dec. 14) there's around 6 inches of snow on the ground here in Lakeview, with more on the way and hope springs eternal for a white Christmas!

Yesterday, our fiddlers played all day at the Holiday Fair here and were joined by Irene and Jerry Ruddock from District 1. Only hard core, dedicated O.O.T.F.A. members would brave such inclement weather over a couple of mountain passes to spend the day fiddlin' for free! The previous week, Jan and Jim Lancaster joined us on jam night, too. We appreciate the fiddlin' and the "visiting." Thank you.

Alan Bell joined us as well. Technically he's still a 1E member, although he and family are in the process of moving to Medford to set up a new business and they took time out of their busy schedule to play with us. Our loss will be your gain, District 4. Perry Forga has been appointed to replace Alan as vice-chairman, by the way, and we know he'll do an excellent job. Yesterday evening we had a Christmas party at the home of Bev Perry, with a white elephant gift exchange.

Senior Center play dates have been firmed up. We'll play from 11:00 a.m. 'til noon on each of these Fridays-16th, 23rd, and 30th.

Next month's senior center play dates are on Jan. 6th and 20th. We play from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Lake District Long Term Care Facility.

Our next business meeting will be on January 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Lake County Senior Center and the next jam will be held on January 3, 2004. in the Memorial Hall (courthouse basement). Potluck is at 6:30 p.m. and we begin the music at 7:00 p.m. There are no birthdays on the roster for January.

Finally, District 1E and the Homer McLain family would like to thank all of you who've been sending cards, emails, or maybe offered to help in some way. Rosa Lee, especially, gives thanks with a grateful heart for all the expressions of love and caring that have come in the wake of Homer's illness

Eileen McLain, District 1E Reporter

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#### 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

Happy New Year 2004. We hope to bring new musicians and visitors to join District 3 this year and enjoy Old Time Fiddle Music.

We have had a wonderful 2003 year with lots of visitors and new members. We have seen a lot of musicians improve and have grown with District 3. We are just one big family and it brings joy to our hearts to share and see all the love that is past to each other. Hope we can continue this on down the line. :o)

December 7th VFW show was great as usual. Our next VFW show will be January 4th 2004. Hope to see all members there at 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lets bring in a new year playing music and dancing. We encourage all members to be at the meeting to follow the January 4th show.

There will be no more Jams at the Redmond library until further notice.

Our District 3 Christmas Party December 13th was great! We had more food than people but we had fun playing , singing and dancing. District 3 thanks Leroy Sims from Arizona who played the fiddle an wife Shirley who sang. Thanks for coming and sharing Christmas with us.

Also, Brendan Booher who played the fiddle with Leroy Sims on the stage, great job guys!!!

Bob Hanson who played guitar and wife Jean from Roseburg District 10 joined us for our Christmas party, really enjoyed his music.!!

We had two members joined at our Christmas Potluck and their names are Fred Dulley from Alfalfa and wife Barbara who sang and played the guitar.

I hope everyone got their dues in for the year 2004 Hoedowner. :o) Send dues to Earlene Ervin ASAP. Last call!!!

District 3 would like to thank every member who helped putting our Christmas Potluck together, they worked hard. We love you guys and gals!!! Thanks Sooooo much! :o) Also ones who helped clean up after a great Christmas Party!!! Thank You!!! :o)

District 3 will keep all who are sick in our prayers and wish fast recovery and May God Bless you.

District 3 would like to celebrate all birthdays and anniversaries with lots of love and Old Time Fiddle Music. Hope everyone enjoys what music brings to you in the New Year 2004.

LOVE OF MUSIC SOOTHES THE HEART AND SOUL. KEEP ON PLAYING MUSIC. :o)

Ellen Jakab District 3 reporter

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#### 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

Sort of a gloomy, rainy day at Roxy Ann Grange, but our big holiday feast (with lots of trimmin's), and the good music made it a great day. Our schedule for 2004 is now ready, and you can get copies on a card from Gene Williams or Judy McGarvey. We decided to have our picnic in July, and no meeting, jam, or anything in August so we can go to the Diamond Lake Campout, always so ably hosted by Jerry and Irene Ruddock (and it's so much fun!)

Scott Phillips noted that "Grandpa's fiddle" before Scott got it, was always played acoustically, with no amplification. He suggested we might try playing some tunes at our jams with no sound system, as they did in years gone by. Sounds interesting!

Our service hours this month totaled 83 hours. Are we allowed to have that much fun? Ed Dake made a CD of the March '03 jam. It is very nicely done and has many pictures included. He is selling them at \$10 with \$8 of each CD going to District 4. Thanks Ed, you've done a great job!

Visitors included Bonnie Robinson from Medford guest of Tommy Mendez and Doug Douglas, Don Judd from Rogue River, and Jerry and Irene Ruddock and Ernie Penry from Klamath Falls.

New members included Con Reynolds from Eagle Point, Dearl and Barbara Hooten from Eagle Point, and Margaret Keine and Breffni Whalen from White City.

It was a shock to learn of the death of Frances Dalton in an auto crash in Grants Pass. She was the wife of Bill Dalton, a fiddler and former member of OOTFA. Carol Henderson coordinated a lovely version of Amazing Grace in her memory. Our sympathy goes out to Lem and Leora Guthrie and their family at the death of her mother. Bill Gandy is home following his by-pass surgery and kidney failure. He is on regular dialysis, but is getting out to play a gig for the holidays. Hang in there, Bill – you are special! Joyce Grissom was in the hospital with pancreatitis, but is now back home. Tommy celebrated his 87th birthday at the jam, with a huge yummy cake and a rousing singing of Happy Birthday. We really missed Joyce, though. Jerry Van Foeken noted that he has known Tommy for over 50 years. They served 2 years together in WWII in the Pacific, Okinawa, and Guam. He caught up with him again just a couple years ago, and they've renewed their relationship after all these years. Isn't that something?

Marie Mickey is back home after her stay in the hospital, and had her usual friendly smile as she greeted us all at the jam. She wanted to give a special thanks to all those who sent kind words, prayers, and cards. A card was sent around to send to Helen Tracy – she and her husband have been ill, and we just want them to know how much they are loved! Hugs to you both!

In this time of wonderful holidays, we want to give praise to the many workers,, in addition to those listed above, who help make our jams run smoothly – Cathy Serpa in the kitchen, Bob Zellerman for setting up (and taking down) chairs, Artie Hammonds for doing the board sign up for the jam, and Jerry Van Foeken for his hugs and greetings to all (and even those terrible jokes!). Many, many others contribute time and effort as well, and we give you thanks.

It's been a great new experience for some of the "5 O'clock Jammers" (the beginning fiddle group) to try their hand at playing in a little orchestra (we called it the "Methodist Philharmonic"). They learned Christmas music for Christmas programs at the Methodist Church. For those who don't read music, or read it with effort, it's been a real challenge, and they rose to the occasion! There are all kinds of ways to celebrate our music!

A thought: Be eccentric—it's one of the few places left that's not crowded.

Judy McGarvey, reporter District 4

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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

Happy New Year to all!! We hope that this year will bring good music and good tidings to all.

It has been decided that District 5 will host a campout this summer in Winchester Bay, OR. The dates are August 12-15, 2004. It will be held at the Winchester Bay Grange Hall. This is a wonderful location right on the coast with a large harbor and sand dunes. Winchester Bay is a very popular fishing and camping area. Therefore it is necessary that you get your reservations in early. (Like in January).

This is a wonderful time for people without trailers or RV's to attend a camp out as there are many motels and other accommodations in the area. Following is a list of sites:

Marina RV Resort: \$23-\$28 per night full hook up  
(541)271-0287. Reservations open Jan 1, 2004  
(This is across the marina from the Grange where we will be playing. About 0.8 mile)

Umpqua Lighthouse State Park. \$16 per night with hook up. Yurts and cabins are also available.  
800-452-5687 Reservations available now. This is a beautiful, wooded area about 1/2 mile south of Winchester Bay.

Salmon Harbor RV: \$18 per night. On Hwy 101 about 3 blocks from grange. (541) 271-2791

Discovery Point RV: \$24 per night. Only 8 sites left for 30' units or less. Also a 3 br. 2 b mobile home, sleeps 6 @\$98.00 per night, a studio - sleeps 2 (no stove) @\$68, and trailers - sleep 4 @\$78 per night.  
1.4 miles from grange.

Windy Cove A County Park: \$15 full hook ups (541) 271-4138 . 0.9 mile from grange

Windy Cove B County Park: \$15 full hook up (541) 957-7001. 0.7 mile from grange. Area is located on grass across from the marina.

A group dry camp at \$8 per day is also available. We have tentatively reserved spots but need to give them a firm number ASAP. Please let Sharon Gallagher know if you would like to reserve a dry camp site. (541) 572-2742 or 2030 King Lane, Myrtle Point, OR 97458. This area is between marina slips on pavement. Restrooms and showers are in the dry camp area. 0.9 mile from grange

Motels:

Bay Inn - \$45-\$55 per night. 800-246-1462

Harbor View Motel - \$40 - \$45 per night. (541)  
271-3352

In Reedsport, 2.5 miles north of Winchester Bay, there are an additional six motels: Best Western, Economy Inn, Salty Seagull, Anchor Bay Inn, Best Budget Inn (with Sr. discounts), Fir Grove

The entire area is flat and easy walking. There are a number of good restaurants and fun shops. Hope to see many of you there.

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.

Our New Year Birthday Wishes go out to Phil Fry on January 5th, Harold Householder 7th, Russ Hall and Loren Osborne 12th, Darlyne Foerster and Sally Jordan 16th, Barbara Pruitt 20th, and Chuck Booher 27th. Happy Anniversary to Norm and Kathy Nash on January 10th.

Our fiddlers played at many special holiday events this last month. This included the Florence Senior Center, the Florence Friendship club, and Peaceharbor Hospital holiday celebrations. The Florence newspaper, the Suislaw news, ran a wonderful three part feature article about our local fiddlers and about OOTFA.

For January our nursing home play dates include 1/7 - Ocean View and Heritage, 1/14- Inland Point & Ocean Crest, 1/16 - Bay Crest Village, 1/21- Oerding Manor. & Myrtle Point Care Center and 1/28 -Life Care. We will also be playing at the Florence Senior Center on January 14th.

The OOTFA cookbook has been sent to the printers. Hopefully it will be available for purchase at the convention in Roseburg. I would like to thank those people who have contributed. You can see a preview of the cookbook online at: <http://www.winfinity.com/~weiners/cookbook/>

Hal Weiner Reporter, District 5

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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

Happy New Year, and Happy Fiddling! Hope your holidays were joyful and safe.

We had a very fine Christmas jam at the Lebanon Moose Lodge in December, highlighted by a visit from Santa and his merry Elf. Many thanks to Jack Walker for arranging Santa's appearance, and to Joe Moyle for being such a good sport in the curly-toed shoes. We were glad to see Ken White back in action after shoulder surgery earlier this fall. It was also good to see and hear Brian Dunaway, who is 94 and still drawing a strong bow! Thanks to Don Peeler for bringing Brian. And many thanks to the Moose Lodge for serving such a fine lunch. We will be there again in early May.

Our next jam will be at the Willamalane Senior Center in Springfield when we host the State quarterly meeting on Saturday January 10th. Doors open at 9

AM, meeting at 11, potluck and jam to follow. Karen Weiner will be supervising the kitchen and would appreciate help, and of course we need folks to help setting up and putting away chairs and tables. These State meetings are always great places to hear musicians from all over the state, so make it a point to attend.

In February we will again meet at Crow Grange on February 21st. This is the annual election of district officers, followed by the usual potluck and jam. The end of March sees the advent of the State convention. We will need someone to make 3 centerpieces for the banquet tables--please let Joe know if you would like to do this. We also need donations of items for the door raffles.

Gary Lake is continuing his chemotherapy, and has good days and bad days, but maintains a positive outlook. Betty Hawkins is still not 100% after surgery in November. And Bob Kaiser is still dealing with health issues which keep him from feeling his usual self. Ruth Kennedy is recovering from back surgery in December. Wayne Carpenter's friend Elsie suffered a stroke in mid-December. Best wishes for better health to all these folks!

Birthdays: Joe Moyle 1/1; Martha Greene, 1/14; Tom McAdam 1/14; Alan Ede, 1/16; Zane Coffin, 1/18; John Childers, 1/22; Ken White 1/22; Leah Canaday, 1/26.

FYI: Red Herndon has scheduled another of his jams on January 4th at the Springfield Elks Lodge.  
Mark Ratzlaff, District 6 Reporter

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#### 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

Our December Jam at J.J. North's Grand Buffet was a lot of fun. We ate all we wanted and started the music and it lasted for three hours. We had visitors from several other Districts. It was great!

Condolences of the membership go to District 7's Helen Washburn on the recent death of her daughter, Helen D. Hickey of Lake Oswego, who died of cancer on September 30 at the age of 57. Condolences of the membership also go to Ernie Leffler on the recent death of his wife, June. Ernie and June were members in District 8 for a long time before they moved up to King City and District 7. Condolences of the membership also go to Jeff Walter on the recent death his beloved pet bird, Lilly.

There will be a short business meeting before the jam at Gladstone on Sunday the 18th. This is important so be sure to be there.

Friday January 9, 2004 from 12:30 to 1:30 players are needed at Providence Laurelhurst. This is the daycare for the frail elderly and they love us! They're at 4540 NE Glisan, parking is on-street and chancy. Enter the building through the third door from the sidewalk on the south side.

Sunday January 18, 2004 is our OOTFA monthly jam at the Gladstone Senior Center at 1050 SE Portland Avenue in Gladstone. From the inner SE of Portland, I always go south on McLoughlin, turn left at SE Arlington and left on Portland Avenue. The Center is on the left a few blocks up. Informal jamming starts about 11 and public jam starts at 1:00. Public 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. Use the facility's parking lot.

Saturday February 7, 2004 The Gaston Fiddle Contest 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 musicians. Look for more information in this month's Hoedowner.

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. The center is on the corner of Ivy and 13th, left side. Informal jamming starts about 11 and public jam starts at 1:00. The public is invited so bring all your friends.

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 not longer with us, we carry on there in his memory. This jam is one of the best. The public is invited.

Music was my first language. - Mr. Rogers

Linda Easley from District 7

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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

Here's wishing everyone a great year. Time sure flies doesn't it?

Our December Jam will have been the 20th at McMinnville. We always have a great time there, with lots of musicians. Lots of dancers and toe tappers too. This will be the first time out for our new sound trailer! So we are all anxious to see Dale Colebank drive up with it. As the kids say, "It is awesome."

Norm McGrew, Lew and Alice Holt played for June Leffler's funeral. She passed away in late November. Our condolences to Ernie the family. Ernie was a member of District 8 for many years before he moved to District 7.

We hope to see many of you at the OOTFA quarterly meeting in Springfield. If you've never attended a state meeting, here's your chance to find out how our organization runs.

SATURDAY January 17 we will meet at McMinnville Senior Center. No potluck. Bring a sack lunch or what you need to keep up your musical energy! We'll have a short meeting at 11:30. Here's how to get to the Senior Center. If you are traveling through McMinnville north on the main highway -- after you have gone through business district and start to go out of town, there will be a McDonald's on the left (north side of the highway) right there you turn right (south) on to McDaniel St. and the Senior Center is a couple of blocks on the left (east)

February 7 will be the second annual Gaston Fiddle Jubilee Contest. This is fun, folks! Come and listen, but don't be shy about entering the contest!

SATURDAY February 21 will find us once again at McMinnville. This is an IMPORTANT date because we'll be electing our officers for the next term.

March 13, Saturday, is the Irish Stew Dinner and Dance at the Salem-Keizer Senior Center. More details later.

I recently heard a statement that I'm going to adapt to fiddle music. "Time spent fiddling, it not counted against your allotted days on earth."

Alice Holt, reporter

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District 9

Chairperson: Julia Milleson 541-573-2206

Co-Chairman: Walt Cooper 541-573-3417

Secretary/treasurer/membership:

Rose Johnson 541-573-6237

On November 20th a group of 12 players put on a program for the E.S.A. Sorority. The Sorority is showcasing different talents in Harney County and asked us to give a background of old time fiddling and the history of our district 9. "the story of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association" printed in 1999 was a valuable source of information. After a brief history, we featured different instruments and styles of playing. They were a very responsive group and we had an enjoyable evening playing for them.

Braving a cold, windy, snowy Dec. 14th were guest: Evelyn Ripper, Arizona. Phil Drain, Salem, Don Obrien, Oregon City Dist. 7 who joined us in a great holiday feast and enjoyed the 2 hour jam which followed. It was good to have Lincoln Weiss come play with us as well. Ruel Teague was the winner of a Poinsettia plant door prize.

Please jot down the play dates for Aspens on January 9th at 7 p.m. and Ashley Manor Monday January 19th at 6:30.

With the hustle and bustle of Christmas behind us we welcome a bright New Year 2004.  
Julia Milleson Reporter District 9

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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. Time has certainly flew for 2003. We hope you had a very GOOD YEAR.

On December 13, 2003 we had our Christmas Potluck and Jam. Due to the weather we didn't have as good of turnout as usual. All those that attended enjoyed food and great music.

We have several Birthdays in January; Joyce Pickett, Betty Crosby, Fred Carstensen, Doris Dilbeck, Teresa Plybon and Bruce Wirlinger. "HAPPY BIRTHDAY".

Our next meeting will be January 10, 2004 at Winston Community Center, Winston, Oregon. Visitors are always welcome. Our meeting will begin at 11 a.m.; potluck 12 noon and Jam 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Happy 2004 to everyone and a healthy NEW YEAR.

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

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ED SED: I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. It's seems like almost

yesterday that many were stocking their shelves with water, food, and other necessities for the much anticipated power failure in the new millennium and here is it already the beginning of 2004. Hard to believe that it's gone by so fast. May each of you have a happy and healthy New Year.

We at District 3 received the most wonderful present. As we walked into the building of our district's Christmas party, lo and behold, there stood LeRoy and Shirley Sims. What a joyous occasion that was. After LeRoy and Shirley moved to Arizona, many gave them only two or three years there before they moved back to Oregon, however just the opposite has happened. They are thriving in Arizona and thoroughly enjoy their new location. It sure was good to see them.

PLEASE NOTE & MARK YOUR CALENDARS- Due to structural damage to the Community Hall building in Roseburg, the 2004 Convention will be held in the Douglas Hall building on APRIL 8th, 9th & 10th. (That is a week later than originally scheduled.) The Floral Building will be open for ONLY one day for the early birds on April 7th. All other activities including workshops, executive board meeting, etc. will be held in the Douglas Hall. The Douglas Hall building is a much larger building and will accommodate all of our activities and events quite nicely. We have been very fortunate to obtain the new dates and building. My thanks to Louie Roy for his diligence, hard work and negotiations with the Douglas County Fairgrounds.

District 5 is planning a fun filled campout on Aug. 15-17 at Winchester . Please read the District 5 news for all the details. Thank you Hal Weiner for all your effort and time to make the OOTFA cookbook a wonderful success.

The quarterly meeting will be January 10, 2004 in Springfield at 11 a.m. There will also be a separate short meeting for the Rules and By Laws Committee. We look forward to seeing you in Springfield.

My thanks to all who called & wished me well after my recent surgery. Recuperation is going well & I'll soon be as good as new. Until next time, Happy New Year,  
Ed

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Editor's report.

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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. (Several others said that this month, too.)

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I want to especially thank all of the district reporters for the extra effort they extended this month to get their news in a week early so the Hoedowner could be printed before Christmas. The printer takes the week off after Christmas. Again thanks to you all. Lew

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From the pen of Ace:

"Ace is currently putting together a memorabilia album revealing imagery of Videos, CDs & DVDs he has put together of various individual members. This album will serve as a blunt reminder of the loss, of for example, six members in just this last year alone. We miss them, their music and their songs, very much, and he would like to pass on their powerfully terrific image and memories to future members. The How, Who, Where, When, What and Whyfores these and current members got into music and Old Time Music "The Oregon Way'. This will provide a powerful and terrific image of our music minded members for years to come. Therefore please, if you have received an individual Video, CD or DVD that Ace has made of you or that loved one that has passed away, please mail, E-mail: [acewehus@aol.com](mailto:acewehus@aol.com) or call him at (503) 266-4144 and give him a "BIO" of about 250 words.

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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.

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Preserving our music and the musicians that play it are important. Back in the 1979 when Alice and I first joined OOTFA I would sit in the audience and tape the jams. I would start just a second before a fiddler started and a second after he or she finished. Now I admonish myself for not recording the introduction of the fiddler. I find myself now wondering who that fiddler was. I listen to the music but I also listen to "a person." The musician, for me, becomes as important as his or her music.

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Myrtle wants to say "thank you" to all of you who have renewed your membership in OOTFA. She reports that many, many of you have sent in your renewals to her or through your district membership people. On or about the 20<sup>th</sup> of December, she will send a list of members who have not renewed to the publisher to be dropped. That's the way life is.

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Alice and I want to take this opportunity to extend our season's greetings to all of you.  
Lew

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## GASTON OLD TIME FIDDLERS JUBILEE

Dear fiddle friends,

Our community of Gaston is on Hwy 47 about 6 miles south of Forest Grove towards McMinnville. We want to invite you to enter our fiddle contest.

There will be cash prizes of \$2500, trophies and ribbons. The contest will be held on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2004 at the Gaston High School in Gaston. We are very proud of our three judges. They are Clara Murphy from Battle Ground, WA., Eileen Witley from West Linn, OR., and Jay Dean Ludiker from Spokane, WA. Many of you know them.

The contest this year will include the following divisions: Pee Wee, Jr. - Jr., Junior, Adults, Seniors, Super Senior and Open. Each division will have a prize for the best dressed contestant.

Saturday will begin with a meeting with the judges at 9:00. All fiddlers and back up are invited to an on stage jam at 9:30. The contest will begin at 10:00 with the Round one of the Adult Division. And then follow on through the day with the other divisions and rounds. (Times are tentative.)

We want and need many contestants and invite you to participate whether you are the champion or just like to "fiddle." All of you can't be winners but we will be a winner if you choose to participate in our contest. Our success depends on your participation.

Your participation will help bring fiddling to our community where fiddle music has been a tradition. We want to continue that tradition. You may register at the contest but we encourage you to preregister. This will help us the day of the contest and will hopefully give us some idea of participation. If you don't receive an invitation in January, just supply the information on a sheet of paper. Name, Division, Address - email to Lewholt@aol.com or mail it to him. This is an open contest so we encourage and invite anybody from anywhere to enter.

We would appreciate having your preregistration forms back to us by Tuesday, February 3rd. (Send them to Lew.) Your packets will be ready for you to pick up at the contest. The registration table will be open at the high school Saturday morning at 8:30. We will try to close registration 45 minutes before a round begins so we can post the order of play. But if you are entering the adult division and haven't preregistered, please register before 9:30. There is no fee for preregistration but there will be a registration fee of \$3.00 at the contest. Each contestant will receive two guest passes. Please check the OOTFA website for more information.

We want to thank members of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association for their advice and assistance. For more information, please feel free to contact:

Theo Ward  
503-985-7035

Gaston Jubilee  
P. O. Box 632

Lew Holt  
503-391-5377

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The first Hoedowner

Waldport, Oregon  
February 14, 1967

**THE HOEDOWNER**

This will be known as the first volume of the HOEDOWNER, Published by the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association and arranged by the Officers of the Association.

Since our last get-together last September things have been quite slack in the Fiddling business altho we had a wonderful time at the Dorena Grange Hall on January 22nd. I think that was about the best Party we have ever had. Our Potluck Dinner was great and our many Friends that joined us at lunch was a great pickup for the Fiddlers and when we started the show and saw the crowd of spectators that came out to enjoy the day with us, we really felt glad to be Entertainers even if we did have to play an old Fiddle. We want to say thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hite, and Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Hoyer. The Allens, Hites, and Hoyers all live in the Cottage Grove area. We also want to thank Peggy Stratton and all of the Girls who helped in the kitchen or program, and all of the people who came out to make the day some complete.

I had a letter from our secretary, Bill Yohey, a short time ago and he had just returned from Lewiston, Idaho where he and Rusty Modrell had attended the Idaho Fiddlers Meeting. Bill reports they had a wonderful time and may go back again sometime, he also reports that he signed up several new Members in the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers Association and this includes all of the Officers of the Idaho Fiddlers Association so I guess I will have to join the Idaho Fiddlers to get even.

Some time ago I ask the Fiddlers to write me about their Fiddling activities so I could include it in the HOEDOWNER and so far the only response has been from Bill Yohey and Charley Johnson of Portland and I want to say that Charley has been a busy boy. He is connected with several different groups of Musicians and plays all types of music, in Theaters, Rest homes and some Dances.

I have been busy part of the time lately. My wife and I have played a few Dances at Silverton and we also have entertained the old people at the rest home for some time in the past. I have been for some time connected with a group called the Merrymakers, they are at Lincoln City and every second Sunday of the month they go around and entertain at Ret homes in North Lincoln County and I try to go as often as I can. there is something about playing at a Rest home that is different from playing almost anywhere else. First, you know, they are mostly people who are confined to the place for the rest of their lives and don't have much pleasure and nothing to look forward to, and then when you get ready to leave and they tell how much they enjoyed your music, I often wonder if they are the only ones that enjoyed it or if you didn't enjoy it a little bit too.

I am going to name a group of members who I want to head a Committee in your area and get all the help you can and get together now and then for a little Jam session, then write to me about the activities in your area.

The men I have chosen are Jim Allen Pete Haines, Rusty Modrell, Harold Allen, Dave Hits, George Jenkerson, Bill Yohey, Jimmie Miller and Larry Modrell.

I want you each to write to me to be sure you understand what this is all about and if you want a list of Members in your area, just write to me and I will send it to you.

Signed Cliff Buker