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May

19-20 State Contest – Chemeketa Salem

June

15-17 High Desert Campout; quarterly meeting Burns

July

10-14 Wallowa Fiddle Tunes Workshop Wallowa
29-30 Dorena Campout Cottage Grove

August

3-7 Diamond Lake Fiddler’s Jamboree Diamond Lake
9-12 OOTFA Fiddle and Guitar camp Thousand Trails
17-20 Winchester Bay Campout Winchester Bay
26 Canyonville Fiddle Contest Canyonville

September

14-16 Jam and quarterly meeting Merrill

District 1

Chairman - John Northcraft 541-723-5421
Cochairman: Jerry Ruddock
Sec/Fran Coker: 541-783-3478
Treasurer: Membership
Sheila Fry: 541-850-9062
PO Box 295
Keno, OR 97627

May 7 – Monthly meeting and Jam – **CANCELLED!**
May 14 – Jam and Dance, noon, Shasta View Community Hall

Amazing how quickly our weather changes this time of year! Ben & I took a quick 3-day business trip to Salt Lake City in mid-April. Left with the snow blowing and howling, came back to sunshine and birds chirping! Wow. . .

This will be my last article as your District #1 Reporter. My new job as Executive Director for our local Habitat for Humanity is consuming a tremendous amount of my time. I feel someone else will probably be able to do a better job of writing for the Hoedowner, so I will be stepping aside. Thanks for reading!

During April, we had four scheduled performances for small groups at various local elementary schools, plus three additional sessions after the schedule was published. Seems the children were very receptive and enjoyed seeing the various instruments and learning about them. They asked a lot of questions, and the teachers have asked us to come back again some time!

The attempt to improve ourselves by practicing some of our performance songs was voted down overwhelmingly at the April business meeting. So if you were planning on coming out on the last Friday of the month – never mind – now you can do other things!

Our official May schedule is as follows: 5/7- monthly meeting at Villa West Mobile Estates – **CANCELLED** (due to several of our members attending the Silver Lake campout), 5/14 -noon - Jam and Dance at Shasta View Community Hall, 5/18 – 10:30am – Rehab, 5/18 – 1pm – Linkville House. On Saturday 5/27, there will be a Birthday Party (potluck) for George Fernland from 2-5pm at Lorella Hall past Bonanza.

Happy May Birthday wishes to: Lois Tucker, Lu Wells, Steve Currie, Cherie Lane, Darleth Rodgers, Sheila Fry and George Fernland. Our May Anniversary couples are Al and Thelma Nelson, John and Patti Northcraft, and Faye and Isom Patterson – congratulations to you all.

Remember: “The sign of a clear conscience is a bad memory!”

Fran Coker, District 1 Reporter

District 1E
Chairperson: Rosa Lee McLain 541-947-2903
Co-Chair: Dale Bryant
Sec/Treasurer.: Sharilyn McLain 541-947-4623
Membership: Bev Perry
628 North J St.
Lakeview, OR 97630

May Jam: 20th
May Business Meeting: 8th

By the time you get your Hoedowner, it may be too late, but nonetheless, the District 1E Silver Lake Camp Out will be going on May 4,5,6, and 7 at the fire hall in beautiful (?) downtown Silver Lake. Earlier issues of the Hoedowner should have all the information you might need if you decide to make a spur of the moment decision. Otherwise, call Terry McLain @ 541-947-4474.

Everyone will doubtless be praising the current OOTFA leadership for the wonderful State Convention this year. I'll just say it was the BEST convention I've ever been to. Great people, good food, great music. Who could ask for anything more? Song title?

Nursing home play dates for 1E are May 9 and 23 at the Lake District Long Term Care Facility from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Lake County Senior Center play dates are every Friday from 10:30 'til noon. There's nothing on the horizon as far as performances, so we'll have a dry spell for a month or two

Birthdays for May are Mary Ann and Rhyanne McLain, both on the 5th, and Bernice Forga on the 19th. Cake and ice cream all 'round if you please. Mary and Shorty Stone have been under the weather again this past month and Bev Perry spent some time in the hospital again as well. Get well soon, folks. Nice weather's coming on and we want you to be able to get out and enjoy it!

I've got to sign off now, I forgot the deadline again and now I'm rushing. I just love deadlines -- especially the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.

Eileen McLain, District 1E Reporter

District 3

Chairman: Dale Anderson 541-382-9094

Co-Chair: Art Bigelow 541-312-3017

Sec/Treasurer/Membership: Earlene Ervin

6189 N.E. Wainwright Road

Prineville, OR 97754

May 7th	VFW Show	Redmond	1-4p.m
May 13th	Pineforest Grange	Bend	10-4p.m
June 4th	VFW Show	Redmond	1-4p.m
June 10th	Pineforest Grange	Bend	10-4p.m
July 2nd	VFW Show	Redmond	1-4p.m
July 8th	Pineforest Grange	Bend	10-4p.m

Spring is finally here! Hopefully the weather will catch up. Our last show was April 2nd at the Redmond VFW. There were 19 performers on the stage, and we had 145 people watching the show. There was a lot of foot tapping and dancing. We had a business meeting afterwards with 29 members attending. We had voting for officers for the year July 2006-2007. Congratulations to:

Chairman:	Dennis Jakab
Co-Chairman:	Jean Hardman
Secretary/ Treasurer:	Joyce Wallace
New Members:	George Brown

Come and join our next toe tapping and dancing good time. Our next VFW show will be May 7th.

District 3 wants to thank District 8 and State for the good convention. Congratulations to: Irene Ruddock on her election as OOTFA president. Congratulations to Jack Kerr on receiving a truly spectacular trophy for all around backup player. Thank you to Carolyn Marstall for organizing the Friday/ Saturday night programs. Your group performed great!

If anyone wants to order a name tag, please order it from Earlene Ervin. Make sure you have your district number on it.

The following are forthcoming campout dates:

May 4-7	Silver Lake campout at the fire station
June 15-17	Burns High Desert campout at the fairgrounds

District 3 will be playing at this year's fair on August 6th at 2:00p.m. If you want to perform, please contact Dale. We will also have a show at the VFW that day.

Closing Thoughts: May your days be filled with old time music in your hearts, and rhythm in your step. May God bless those who have lost loved ones, or are sick. Happy Birthday and Anniversaries to all this month.

Rhea Bigelow, District 3 Reporter.

District 4

Chairman: Judy McGarvey 541-779-8145 jmcgarvey97@charter.net
Co-Chairman: Lee Ferguson 541-772-6462 frlee8@aol.com
Sec/Treasurer: Judy Lyons 541-956-0618
Membership: Marcia Zellman 541-899-7677
Mailing Address: 408 S. Oakdale, Medford, OR 97501
Publicity: Cathy Frutchey 541-734-2023 cathyfrutchey@hotmail.com
Parliamentarian: Bob Zellman 541-899-7677
Reporter: Rick Reichert 541-488-3741 reichert@jeffnet.org

May 6	Bellview Grange	Ashland
June 3	Fruitdale Grange	Grants Pass
July 1	Picnic at Walch Park	Lakecreek

We had another good meeting at the Roxy Ann grange in Medford, but the OOTFA state convention at the Polk County fairgrounds overshadowed our local events. There were fiddle, guitar and mandolin workshops, lots of indoor jamming, a HUGE public performance Friday night (over 600 guests in attendance!), and a tasty banquet Saturday night. The pre-paid coffee was a really good idea too! Many thanks to all who pulled this event together.

Speaking of food, don't forget - we're going to try "finger foods" for our next few monthly meetings. However, we WILL be having roast pig and turkey at our summer picnic at Walch Park! We will continue our western shirt exchange at our next meeting at the Bellview Grange in Ashland, so bring those duds to the meeting!

At the convention it was announced that Don Lindsey was awarded a Distinguished Service Award by OOTFA, and his name added to the statewide plaque. Shanna & Dean wrote up a heartfelt nomination for Don, who certainly deserves recognition for his many years of helpful, friendly service. Congratulations, Don!

This was not a good month for some of our members. Mary Armstrong has had serious health problems, as have Grumpy and Ruth Kimmel. Please take a few minutes to send your best wishes to these wonderful folks. Also, Huck and Marie have moved out of the area to be closer to family members, and will no longer be attending our meetings. Although not performers, they were loyal supporters of District 4 for many years. Contact Marcia Zellman for their new address and phone number. Virginia Stelle recently passed away, and her family has decided to donate Sam's fiddle, guitar and mandolin to OOTFA for use as loaner instruments. This is a wonderful gesture of support, and shows the kind of people we are so lucky to have in our group. Thank you.

With our busy summer season coming on, a new page was added to the OOTFA District 4 website to show future events. It's online at www.ootfa4.org/Ootfa4Cal-Future.html. Also, if you took any digital pictures at our monthly meeting or at the state convention, this reporter would like to have a copy. Please send them as an email attachment to reichert@jeffnet.org. Thanks!

There are many wonderful old-time tunes to choose from. Please try this month's "Old-Time Tune of the Month": Old French. It's a wonderful old tune with a lilting melody in the key of D. For other great old-time tunes, please visit the Tunelist on the District 4 website, www.ootfa4.org.

"The Mandolin is the bottom four strings of the guitar, backwards...so a person with dyslexia has no problem learning to play the Mandolin." (Steve Goodman)

Please send news items and pictures to Rick Reichert: reichert@jeffnet.org

Rick Reichert, District 4 Reporter

District 5

Chairman: Larry Gallagher (541) 572-2742

Co-Chair: Hal Weiner (541) 902-2336

Secretary/Treasurer: Kathy Nash (541) 902-1981

Membership: Karen Weiner (541) 902-2336

PO Box 261, Florence, OR 97439

May 18 - Ocean Ridge Assisted Living

May 20 - Farwest Hall, Bandon

June 10 - Winchester Bay Grange

July 8 - Yachats Smelt Fry

July 15 - Winchester Bay Grange

August 17-20 - Winchester Bay Campout

A big THANKS to everyone from our district who volunteered to help out at the convention in Rickreall. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time and most of the musicians went home with sore fingers!! A special thanks to Guy Kinman and Bob Hansen for helping out at the Saturday night dance. Both Kathy Nash and Sharon Gallagher did a fine job as announcers!!

At our jam on April 15th we had 12 musicians and a happy audience who enjoyed a great performance. We were pleased to welcome Wally Bloom and Hannah Meldrim from District 6 as well as Charles, Sara and Nathan Tindall from Reedsport. Our next jam will be on May 20th at the Farwest Hall in Bandon. The hall is located on Hwy 42S just East of Hwy 101 in Bandon. Come to our potluck at noon and then jam from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Our next meeting will be in June at the Winchester Bay Grange on June 10th. Please note this the second Saturday, as the third Saturday is the date of the state meeting in Burns. Please plan to attend as we will be discussing our final plans for the campout. The meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. with potluck and jam to follow.

Fiddlers are needed to play at the Ocean Ridge Assisted Living at 1855 S.E. Ocean Ave in Coos Bay on May 18th from 5 - 7 p.m.

Hal Weiner has established an OOTFA instrument lending library with the generous contribution from two of his friends. So far he has a classical guitar, a small parlor guitar suitable for a child, two fiddles, and a ukulele. There are also learning to play guitar, banjo and ukulele books. Additional instrument and book contributions would be welcome. Anyone can check out an instrument from the library for the purpose of learning how to play the instrument. There will be no charge. For more information contact Hal at 541-902-2336 or email him at hal@banjowine.com

It is NOT too early to make reservations for our August campout. No reservations are needed for dry camping, but if you want to stay in a hotel or have hook-ups, it is best to make reservations now. Contact information is at our website at <http://www.ootfa.org>.

On a sad note, Catherine Hall died on the morning of April 3 in Bandon, just three days short of her 96th birthday. She was a Life member of OOTFA, District 5. Catherine moved to Bandon from southern California 30 years ago and was an active fiddler until 2 or 3 years ago. Catherine was a retired school librarian, bright and lucid until the end. She lived alone, but gave up driving when she was about 92. She was a regular at the Langlois First Fridays, and played in the nursing homes too. She was a mentor and good friend to many of us.

Cecil Davis suffered a stroke and is a nursing home in Creswell. We all pray for a good recovery.

Happy Day of Being Born to all May Folksters and Happy Celebration of Knot-Tiers to all May couples.

Hal Weiner, District 5 Reporter

District 6

Chairman: Bob Strelow 541-782-4803

Co-chair: Joe Moyle 541-343-5894

Sec./Treasurer: Bernie Roberts 541-689-5764

Membership: Mark Ratzlaff, 25701 Cochran Ct.

Veneta, OR 97487 541-935-8506

May 7	Moose Lodge	Lebanon
June 10	Jasper Grange	Jasper

The weather is looking up! I've actually been seeing a bit of sunshine lately. But it sure caused some problems for our April 15th Jam at Central Grange. It was cold, rainy and generally unpleasant outside. Alan Ede said he actually encountered some snow on his way to the jam. Although the crowd was small, it was a lively one. Lots of good music, dancing and friendly conversation over a fine potluck dinner.

I didn't make the state convention at Rickreall last month, but I heard good things about it from several fiddlers who did manage to get there. District 6 chairman Bob Strelow reported that well over six hundred OOTFA members from all over Oregon attended the Friday night show. Bob says the 6:30 pre-show jam featuring the kids was a hoot. Well, what he actually said was the pre-show was "enthusiastically received and well done to boot " but I know it was really a hoot 'cause it's such fun to see the next generation doing so well. Makes us feel optimistic for the future of the Old Time Fiddlers when we see youngsters like eleven year old Tatiana Hargreaves and fifteen year old Christy Tanner on stage fiddlin' their hearts out. Thanks girls, for representing District 6 so well at the state convention.

Coming up this month. May 7th is the annual spring jam at the Lebanon Moose. Twice a year, May and December, the Old Time Fiddlers/Moose combination happens in Lebanon. The lodge provides a great dinner (without charge) and the Fiddlers provide great music for listening and dancing. They do pass the hat sometime during the day and the proceeds are divided between the fiddlers and the meece . No offense intended, Lodge members, just a little levity. <grin>

In June, the monthly jam will be held at the Jasper Grange on the tenth. The Grange Ladies will be offering a nice meal for a nominal fee so this time you won't have to bother making that special potluck offering you usually do or pack a sandwich. Just grab your fiddles, guitars and tambourines and come on down!

We're a tad short on special days to celebrate this month but we're glad the following District 6 folks decided to share with us:

May birthdays----Jackie Parsons, 5/19 and Marcella Leuninggen 5/23.

Anniversaries----Buck and Susie Milligan 5/3; Andy and Ruth Kennedy 5/6; Phyllis and Zane Coffin 5/18 and Ruth and Don Loring 5/31

Congratulations all!

Don't forget there are extra opportunities to get together each month. Jams at the Central Grange the first Friday night of the month; at the Crow Grange the second Friday night. Day-time jams 10-4 (with potluck) at Central Grange the second Tuesday and Jasper Grange the 4th Thursday. And if you're not tired yet, Bernie Charlebois is starting a new jam the third Thursday at the Franklin Grange. I hear that's in Franklin. For more info on the new one, contact Bernie and Marcella at 988-3566.

Now if I were planning to attend any or all of the above (which I might) I think instead of remembering it was the second something, I'd sit down with my May calendar and mark the actual date of the first Friday, fourth Thursday, etc. Whatever works so you don't miss a good one.

Enjoy whatever sunshine we're blessed with this month and keep the music flowing.

Judie Eads, District 6 Reporter

District 7

Chairman: Jim Kuether 503-663-3634
Co-Chairs: Dick and Donna Foreman 503-630-3577
Sec/Treas: Barbara Petrin 503-639-1688
Membership: Myrtle Arnold
2941 SE Llewellyn Avenue
Troutdale, OR 97060
666-3529

May 14	Corbett Grange	Corbett
May 20	Willamette Locks	West Linn
June 9	Gresham Funeral Chapel	Gresham
June 11	Estacada Community Center	Estacada
June 17	Tanner Springs Assisted	West Linn

The Convention was Great! Katherine Allen videotaped all the important performances, including Ron and Ella Beatty's debuts on their fiddles. They are now "old time fiddlers"!

District 7 was well-represented with performers, backup and audience. Chuck Gates distributed the raffle items at the banquet. This is always so much fun. Terry Jorgensen really cleaned up with "beginner's luck". This was her first convention.

There are lots of opportunities to get out and play at upcoming play dates:

Sunday May 14th will be our regularly scheduled monthly jam at the Corbett Grange at 37393 Corbett Grange Hall Road in Corbett, Oregon. Take I-84 east from Portland to the Corbett Exit – Exit 22, go all the way up the hill to the Scenic Highway and turn left. Go less than a mile past the Fire House on the right. The highway curves right then left again. At the left curve, go straight ahead onto Grange Hall Road and go up the road. Informal jamming will start about 11, with a formal sign-up jam from 1 – 4.

Saturday May 20th from 11 to 12 noon we need players at the Willamette Locks in West Linn to celebrate the oldest river locks west of the Mississippi River. Built in the 1870's the locks allowed river traffic to move around the Willamette Falls where the river drops 40 feet. To get there: on I-205 from the South, take Exit 8 and turn right onto Willamette Falls Drive, from the North, take Exit 8 and turn left onto Willamette Falls Drive. Just past the West Linn Police Station, turn right onto Mill Road (DON'T CROSS THE BRIDGE!). Tell the assistants that you are with the Fiddlers and need to get to the stage and they will tell you how to get there and where to park.

Friday June 9 from 7 – 8 p.m. at the Gresham Funeral Chapel we're hired to play for their Annual Appreciation Barbecue from 7 – 8 p.m. It's at 257 SE Roberts in Gresham. If you are on Powell, turn south on Roberts and the parking lot is on the west side of the building.

Sunday June 11 from 11 – 4 p.m. we are scheduled to play at the Estacada Community Center at 200 SW Clubhouse Drive down behind the Boots and Spurs Restaurant off Hwy 224 in Estacada. Informal jamming starts about 11 and the public performance starts at 1 p.m.

Saturday June 17 from 1 – 2 p.m. we are hired to play at Tanner Springs Assisted Living at 23000 Horizon Drive in West Linn. From I-205 take the 10th Street Exit (#6), go up the hill on Salamo Road to Day Road (Starbucks on the right) turn left onto Day Road, the first left is Horizon Drive which ends in their entrance, but parking is better around back.

See you down on the Music Road.

Linda Easley for Gail Foster, District 7 Reporter

District 8

Chairman: Marie Bailey 503-835-7185
Co-Chair: Ray Cunningham 503 763-8848
Sec/Treas/ Chris Lang 503-982-6224
Membership: Jackie Stephenson
567 Leasure St.
Woodburn, OR 97071

May 19-20	OOTFA Contest	Chemeketa Community College Salem	OOTFA
June 3	District 8 picnic	Hardin's in Dallas	8
June 18	Strawberry Festival	Aurora	8
July 8-9	Silver Falls State Park	Silverton	8

District 8 was pleased to host the convention at the Polk County Fairgrounds. The location was new, but all the fun, fiddling and friendships were the same. The room was packed with over 650 people for the Friday night show! And what a show it was!

Many thanks to all who helped make the convention successful. Fred Hardin worked with the caterer. Lew Holt planned the Friday night show. Peggy Tucker and Christine Lang were in charge of the kitchen on Wednesday. These ladies rounded up enough food to feed several armies! Thanks gals! Everyone helped set up and take down chairs, move tables and whatever was needed. As Marie Bailey said, "We'd have to print the whole roster to thank everyone who helped." So THANK YOU one and all! And Thank you Marie for workshops and all the planning that went into the weekend.

Our own Christine Lang was elected OOTFA state vice-president. Congratulations Chris! You'll do a great job for all of OOTFA.

Found after convention: a Glasser bow. If you are missing this bow, call the Holts. 503-391-5377 or e-mail: lewholt@aol.com

Scholarship applications for fiddle lessons will be accepted from District 8 members from May 1 through July 31. We will be able to help four students with scholarships this year. Contact Ray Cunningham for applications. 503-763-8848 or e-mail: raymar56@quik.com

The April 29th jam at Dallas Senior Center was scheduled late. Hope everyone was notified. If it's as well attended as last year, we'll have a full house.

On Saturday, May 6th, we're invited to play at the Sunflower Barn. They are one of our contest sponsors. It's north of Monmouth on the old highway. Contact Todd Whittaker for details.

Are you ready for the OOTFA fiddle contest? May 19th and 20th at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. Come. Play. Listen. Enjoy.

The District 8 picnic will be Saturday June 3rd, 10 - 4 at Fred and Charlotte Hardin's home in Dallas. Potluck and lots of music! Bring food to share, and your tableware and chairs if you have them. All are welcome!
DIRECTIONS: Driving into Dallas you'll be on Ellendale Street. Stay on Ellendale through 2 traffic lights and a few more blocks. Turn right on Douglas, drive up hill three long blocks, turn right on Reed Lane, go one block. It's a log house with a red metal roof, on the corner of Ashley and Reed Lane. See you there!

Winston and Lola Grant are back home in Eddyville and want their friends to know that Winston is doing well but is not able to drive right now. They do plan on attending the campout at Silver Lake. They send their greetings to all of their friends. They have appreciated everybody's concern, letters, cards and phone calls.

More information on the following in later issues:

June 18 Strawberry Festival Aurora
July 15 1000 Trails Pacific City
July 18 Polk County Fairgrounds Park for a group's picnic
July 22 Salem Senior Center picnic
July 29 Caterpillar Show, Antique Powerland Brooks
July 29 Garibaldi Days, Garibaldi
Aug. 10 Polk County Fair, Rickreall

Alice Holt, District 8 Reporter

District 9

Chairperson: George Sahlberg 541-573-6517

Co-Chair: Ruel Teague 541-573-2868

Secretary/treasurer/membership:

Rose Johnson 541-573-6237

May 14 Senior Center

May 15 Ashley Manor

May 15 Aspens

Janet Brayman and Julia Milleison were the only district 9 representatives at the convention in Rickreall; they reported having a good time ... and even had lots of delicious banquet fare this year! Marie (Macomber) was there but we have lost her to District 7 due to her marriage to Dan O'Brien --- Belated Congratulations. A check for \$200.00 was presented to Lew Holt for the upcoming state fiddle contest.

Guests showing up to play at some of our recent jams have been Maynard Thompson from Culver and Phil Drain of Salem who stayed over to play at our Senior Center jam. Others playing at the jam were Stacy Lang and children James and Cheyenne of Canyon City and Betty and Bill Chapman from Christmas Valley. Cheyenne made her playing debut with a rendition of "Boil Them Cabbage Down". Ruel and Margaret Teague are home from Quartzsite and had their grandson Monte and his family with them as well.

On a recent trip to Weiser I stopped in Vail for a short visit with Annie Schlupe. Also stopped by to see Wilma Marler of Ontario who spent a couple of months in the hospital with a broken shoulder and hip, but she was in for a check-up that day so sorry I missed her ---- Sent a card from District 9.

Billie Lanier and Julia played for Ashley Manor last month with help from one of the residents, Ginny Dexter, on the piano. We play Ashley Manor again on May 15th so please come lend your support! We had a big audience at the Aspens on April 14th. Our next Aspens play date is May 15th.

Mothers Day on May 14th will find us at the Senior Center for our last potluck and jam for this season so let's have a big turnout.

Happy Mother's Day

Julia Milleison, District 9 Reporter

District 10

Chairman: Lyneatte Werlinger

541-643-1606

Co-Chairman: Don Hamlin

541-673-5689
Treasurer: Gwynn Deaton
541-839-4501
Secretary: Barbara Sullivan
541-673-8981
Membership & PR Lynn Smith
541-679-9621

Another convention is over, and a good time was had by all. About 10 or 12 of us went up to Rickreall. We jammed all over the building here and there. The Friday night show was very good. It was nice to see so many young people. At the dance, we played, and danced our legs off. Also the banquet was very nice and tasty. Thank you everyone for a great time.

Not much news this time, being we didn't have a jam in April. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all those who have them in May.

Our next meeting, potluck and jam will be May 13th. Bring your instruments and join us. Everyone is welcome.

I'll be the reporter for the rest of the year. Claire Eaton will be gone for a while.

Joyce Pickett, Acting District 10 Reporter

From the Prez:

This month I would like to start my article for the Hoedowner with a huge thank you to everyone that attended our annual convention at Rickreall. It doesn't matter if you just came to play music and enjoy the fellowship of the other members or had an active part in the planning of it. You as members were invaluable to the success of the convention.

Of course, there were a few of us that spearheaded the move from the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Roseburg to the Polk County Fairgrounds in Rickreall that wondered if we did right. However, as it turned out, based on all the positive comments that I heard, I don't think there are any doubts any longer. Now I know that many, many of you worked hard packing chairs, taking care of selling raffle tickets, keeping track of the RV parking, setting up tables for the banquet, conducting workshops and a host of other activities. While I would like to name each of you by name, unfortunately some of the names I do not know and, since I am limited to five hundred words, I don't have the space – so, I just want to say you are all important to this organization and we appreciate your efforts that made this convention a success. Having said this, I would especially like to thank Chairwoman Marie Bailey and her crew from district eight. They were the host district and did a magnificent job of handling all the details that it takes to make everything come together. Fred Hardin, of district 8, as I think you all know by now, was responsible for contacting the caterer and making the arrangements with them for that excellent meal. Also, he took care of all the early meal orders, which was no small task in itself. How about the ladies that prepared and served the refreshments for all the early birds on Wednesday: they really out did themselves, thank you.

Several months back I asked Lew Holt if he would take charge of the Friday night show; he gladly accepted and what a grand job he did. Putting those kids up front like that was a perfect idea, the audience really lived it up. As I stood on the side lines observing the audience you could tell they were hungry for our kind of music --- why shouldn't they be, we had the best fiddlers and back up musicians in the state of Oregon. We had every chair in the hall that the fairgrounds owned and had to bring in a set of bleachers and still had people standing. Unless I miss my guess there will be an even larger audience next year. Thank you all again. Oh yes, we had 71 RV's. Very Good. After all of this excitement we still managed to take care of some business Saturday at our two meetings. We had our quarterly executive board meeting plus the regular business meeting, where we passed and accepted the budget for 2006-2007 to take effect July 1. Also we voted and finalized a couple of minor by-law changes. We also elected new officers for the coming year, all good choices. Mrs. Irene Ruddock will become president; Chris Lang will be vice president, while Mrs. Sharon Gallagher will return as Sec/Treasurer. Congratulations to all of them. There is

much more I could talk about but I'm out of room, five hundred [500] words you know. Don't forget the OOTFA fiddle contest in Salem at the Chemeketa Junior College, May 19 & 20. So long for now till we meet somewhere on the musical trail we all like to travel so well.

OOTFA
President
Bob Ervin

From the Editor Emeritus: We are very pleased with the way you accepted the convention this year at the Polk County Fairgrounds.. We wanted it to go well and your many compliments assured us that it did. Over 600 people were in the audience Friday night. Amy Booher and the young people on the stage with her at 6:30 captured the audience. I heard nothing but compliments about the show.

Newspaper Clippings History Book. They are \$12.00 or \$15.00 if I mail them to you. We sold the Martin guitar that was donated by Jack Kerr and raffled the keyboard donated by Frank Geelan. We now have over \$2000 dedicated to printing history books.

Thanks to Districts 5 and 9 and to Joan Long for their generous donations to the contest. It won't be long until it will be contest time.

DVDs from the convention - Wednesday jam & Thursday night on one. And one DVD each for Friday and Saturday. I want to thank Katherine Allen for her many hours behind the video camera up front. And Don Fitzgerald at the camera in back. The DVDs are \$5.00 each plus \$2.50 per order for shipping.

Somebody left a steel/bar for a dobro and picks on the stage. I have them. Also a Glasser bow.

Please check the website for more information about the contest.

Lew.

From the Editor:

The Hoedowner calendar will concentrate on dates of general interest as far out as I have information. For events in your district, see the schedule at the top of each district report.

The High Desert Jamboree, to be held in Burns at the Harney County Fairgrounds June 15-17 in conjunction with the spring OOTFA quarterly meeting, promises to be quite a wingding. There will be two stages, a jam room, and numerous workshops. RV sites are available for \$15 a day, with dry camping sites going for \$10. If you have group willing to play a thirty minute set on the Sale Stage, call Janet at 541.573.1323 to arrange it – or just turn up, and you will be worked in.

Thelma Drayer and John Clark are staging their annual musical campout at their place at Dorena, the last week-end of July. Come early; stay late. The campout site is about 16 miles east of Cottage Grove on Row River Road (beyond Dorena Lake). Call 514.946.1595 for more info and directions.

Left behind at the Convention: a black, brief-case style notebook with outside pocket, and a plan-ahead logo. There are three "Phillips" CDs in the pocket -- one of Winchester Bay, one of Jim's picknick, and one with song lyrics. In the note book section are words to songs. If the notebook belongs to YOU, contact Marie Bailey, at 503-835-7185 or e-mail bambailey@iinet.com.

The Canyonville Fiddle Contest is set for August 26th. Many thanks to Districts #1 ,#7 and #10 for their generous donations. For more info, contact Gynn Deaton at gynn@mcsi.net.

Paul B. Aguirre, President of the Nevada Old-Time Fiddlers Association, invites Oregon OOTFA members to stop in and jam when passing through Las Vegas. He may be contacted at:
<http://communitylink.reviewjournal.com/lvry/nvfiddlers>.

New Members to Welcome:

Mike & Lynn Foster, Bonanza
John & Sigrid Shafer, Aurora
Donald & Gladys Hasbargen, Yoncalla
Brian & Jill Sorrells, Eugene
Marlon & Lois Jannuzzi, Klamath Falls
George Brown, Crescent
Tom & Vicki Kelley, Terrebonne
George & Kelly Bretz, Silverton

Mark Ratzlaff, State Membership Chairman

State Fiddle Contest

The OOTFA fiddle contest will be held at the Chemeketa Community College again this year on Friday, May 19 and Saturday 20.

Schedule of Events (subject to change)

FRIDAY, May 19, 2006

1:00 P. M. OOTFA jam on main stage
3:00 P. M. Senior-Senior Division (Round 1)
3:45 P. M. Senior Division (Round 1)
7:00 P.M.. Contest begins
Senior-Senior Division final round
Senior Division final round
Twin Fiddle Division (One round)

SATURDAY, May 20, 2006

8:45 CONTEST BEGINS
Young Adult Division (Round 1)
Adult Division (Round 1)
Junior Division (Round 1)
Open Division (Round 1)

NOON INTERMISSION

1:00 Pee Wee Division (One round)
Jr - Jr Division (Round 1)
Open Division (Round 2)
7:00 Contest Begins
Jr -Jr Division (Finals)
Junior Division (Finals)
Young Adult Division (Finals)
Adult Division (Finals)
Open Division (Finals)

There are several pages of rules and information on the OOTFA website: oregonoldtimefiddling.org.

Registration

Contest registration: \$5.00 at the contest. Pre-registration is \$3.00. You can pre-register by email. Forms are on our web site. Or just send me the following information. (If you pre-register by email, you can pay the \$3.00 at the contest.) All pre-registration should be in to me by Wednesday, May 17.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Division _____

Birth date _____ if you are Pee Wee or Senior-Senior contestant - helps us find the youngest and oldest fiddler.

Pre-registration

We plan to mail many pre-registration forms to those that we know will be entering the contest and to others that we hope will enter the contest. If you plan on entering and have not received a pre-registration invitation by - say - May 6, let me know and I'll fire one off to you. Pre-registration is very important.

Other Information

Your membership card for OOTFA will get you in free. RV PARKING: Park around the corner Thursday night; we'll be able to move up closer Friday afternoon. PLEASE DON'T START PARKING BY THE CONTEST BUILDING EARLY. Wait for the signal. We enjoy our relationship with the college and we shouldn't take advantage of a "good situation." There will be a \$5.00 fee each night for parking which we will collect from you.

HANDICAP PARKING AREAS ARE IN FORCE 24 HOURS A DAY. NON-QUALIFIED PARKING COULD GET YOU A TICKET FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Directions to the contest: From I-5, take Exit 256 (Market St.), turn east on Market -- (away from town) go to Lancaster Ave. Turn left (north) on Lancaster to Silverton Rd. (1.3 miles) Go past Silverton Rd. Continue on Lancaster to Winema Place about .3 of a mile or so. Turn right on Winema and building 50 is a block on the left. We are very fortunate to have the Blue Moon Cafe open for us Friday night and all day Saturday. It is just across the parking lot from the gym -- and has a very fine menu especially for us.