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 Vice- Pres Judy McGarvey 719 Brookdale Medford, OR 97504 541-779-8145  
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 Hal Weiner, [banjowines@hotmail.com](mailto:banjowines@hotmail.com); Judy McGarvey, [jmcgarvey97@charter.net](mailto:jmcgarvey97@charter.net); Sharon  
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[JosephM955@aol.com](mailto:JosephM955@aol.com); Mark Ratzlaff, [mark@octoberdesign.com](mailto:mark@octoberdesign.com); Starr McMullen,  
[mcmulles@hotmail.com](mailto:mcmulles@hotmail.com); Amy Booher, [amyrebekah80@yahoo.com](mailto:amyrebekah80@yahoo.com).

#### State Calendar

##### January

10 State Quarterly Jam Riverdale Grange, Roseburg

##### March

20 - 21 State Fiddle Contest Chemeketa Auditorium

##### April

9 - 11 Annual Convention Rickreall

##### July

30 Old Time Fiddle Contest Union County Fairgrounds, LeGrande

#### District 1

Chairman – John Northcraft 541-723-5421  
 Cochairman: Ann Bonser 541-884-2495  
 Secretary/Treasurer/ Membership Bud Ullman: 541-883-2932  
 1218 Buck Island Drive, Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
 Johnny Rodgers, newsletter, 541-591-2004, [John10339@charter.net](mailto:John10339@charter.net)

#### December

2	Gig	Plumb Ridge	11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
2	Gig	Crystal Terrace	1-2 p.m.
6	Jam	Ruddick Shop (bring a chair)	2-4 p.m.
7	Xmas Party and Jam	Bonser's	12 p.m.

13	Jam	Ruddick Shop (bring a chair)	2-4 p.m.
14	Senior Dance and Jam	Shasta Community Center (finger food)	12-4 p.m.
18	Gig	Shasta View Retirement	1:30-2:30 p.m.
18	Gig	Linkville House	3-4 p.m.
20	Jam	Ruddick Shop (bring a chair)	2-4 p.m.
27	No jam at Ruddicks due to the Christmas weekend.		

We have a couple new places to play music starting in December for recuperating patients from the hospital at Plumb Ridge and the retirement home, Crystal Terrace. They will be the first Tuesday of each Month.

The Christmas party and jam will be at the home of Bill and Ann Bonser on December 7 starting at noon. Bring desserts or salads. There will be a gift exchange limited to five dollars, or something funny.

We had a new gig on Sprague River Highway, called the Serenity Lodge. Kind of like a bed and breakfast type lodge. They had several guests there at the time. They said they loved the music and may do it again next year. They so graciously supplied the guests and us with a great meal that afternoon. Rosa Lee and Larry McLain from Lakeview also came.

We also want to thank Larry and Mary Ann, and Rosa Lee McLain for coming over and helping us with the Potato Festival gig. We played music almost too late to get a full meal at the BBQ in Merrill that Saturday. The McLains joined us at the Saturday practice at Ruddock's shop.

The Frys set up a gig at the Keno Fire Department to help the folks there raise money for the horse rescue program. There were about nine of us, and we played for a couple hours. Then it was off to the regular senior dance and jam at the Shasta Community Center that Sunday the ninth. John Northcraft put the play list board up where everyone could see it, which really helped. We also had Betty Chapman show up from Christmas Valley -- thank you for coming, we enjoyed your talents.

Well, fall is about over and the dreaded snow and cold weather is headed out way. This has cut down on travel between districts in the past, at least for us over here on the high side of Oregon. It looks like the next big event will be there in Rickreall. We will all be looking forward to seeing old friends, and great music.

Johnny Rodgers, District 1 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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District 1E

Chairman: Larry McLain (541)947-2448  
Vice-Chair: Jim Fitzpatrick :(541)947-5566

Sec.-Treasurer.: Sharilyn McLain (541) 947-4623  
Reporter: Bev Perry (541) 947-2334

December

6	Jam	Senior Center	4-10 p.m.
8	Meeting	Senior Center	7 p.m.

For the jam on November 1, we ended up playing for the Children Sunshine Day Care Center's taco feed. We had some good music and fun. Thanks to all that came and helped us out.

At Rosa Lee McLain's workshop we have 14 year old Garrett Harlan. He is coming and doing very well. He is a quick learner. Going to pass us all up.

The November 8 Play for the Fair Board appreciation dinner had a good turn out and a lot of fun.

We are sorry to hear about Al Nelson from Klamath Falls. Going to miss his smile, stories and his good music.

Had a really good time at the potato festival in Merrill. That group always makes us feel so welcome. We finished playing in Merrill and then went to Klamath Falls to Jerry and Irene Ruddock's saw shop; we played more music. What a time we had.

Merry Christmas to All!

Keep on a-playing, enjoying each other and give every one a big HELLO.

Bev Perry and Larry McLain, Reporters, District 1E

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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District 3

Chairman: Bob Ervin 541-447-5451

Vice Chair: Jack Kerr 541-447-1318

Sec/Treasurer: Joyce Wallace 541-548-6865

Membership: Earlene Ervin, 6189 N.E. Wainwright Road, Prineville, OR 97754 541-447-5451

Reporter: Joyce Wallace 541-548-6865 [rdxfmr@q.com](mailto:rdxfmr@q.com)

December

7	Jam	Pine Forest Grange
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Once again we had a successful jam at the Pine Forest Grange Hall in Bend. It looks like we did the right thing by moving from the VFW Hall in Redmond to the Pine Forest Grange. Our next jam will be December 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. We have asked our musicians to play some patriotic songs.

Our Christmas Party will be at the Pine Forest Grange as usual on December 13. The doors will be open at 10 a.m. This is not for the public, only for members and guests. The District will furnish the turkey and ham. The rest is potluck. Bring your instruments and appetites. Hope to see you all there.

Also, this is the time of year when you should be thinking if you have someone in mind to nominate for the Distinguished Service Award. Your nomination must reach the president no later than January 1, 2009 to be considered. If you know someone who meets the following criteria, you should definitely nominate them; they deserve the honor.

CRITERIA:

1. Should have outstanding service to OOTFA's goals.
2. Should have been a contributing member for a minimum of 5 years.
3. Contributions should strengthen OOTFA Organization.
4. Should be more than holding an office.
5. Deadline for nominations-January 1

There is a certain form to be used for this. If you need one please let Bob Ervin know and he will see that you get one. You can contact Bob at 541-447-5451 or email [ptranck@printime.net](mailto:ptranck@printime.net).

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

May God bless those who are sick or have lost loved ones.

Happy Birthday/Anniversary to all this month.

Joyce Wallace, District 3 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

Chairman: Scott Phillips                      541-899-7139 [jmp@grrtech.com](mailto:jmp@grrtech.com)  
Co-chair: Cathy Frutchey                    541-734-2023 [cathyfrutchey@hotmail.com](mailto:cathyfrutchey@hotmail.com)  
Secy/Treas: Cindy McDonald              541-899-2838 [bincinka@yahoo.com](mailto:bincinka@yahoo.com)  
Membership: Lola Williams                541-560-3230  
Website: [www.OOTFA4.org](http://www.OOTFA4.org)

December

6        Jam                      Roxy Ann Grange

January

3        Jam                      Eagle Point Grange

The glorious fall weather and beautiful trees are succumbing to the wind and rain that seems to herald winter. It didn't stop our hardy group of musicians from putting on a great November jam at Fruitdale Grange in Grants Pass. The room was filled with a great audience who sang, danced, and clapped along with us!

Members who were willing to learn to use the sound system came early to hone their skills. Peggy Hudson and Judy McGarvey did sound checks off and on for two hours. Scott said only we "old pros" have the stamina to do it, or just don't know any better. Was that a compliment??

Bill Gandy, our singer with the LOW bass voice, just celebrated his birthday. He said it's "39 and holding", but actually reversed that – he's 93! Hey, Bill – just keep on pickin' and grinnin'! We love it – and you!

Mary Armstrong, in spite of facing hip surgery next month, gave a commendable performance with her lovely voice, prefaced by an inspiring message to help others.

The Jammers played for the Halloween party at the church where we meet. In conjunction with the YMCA, there was trick-or-treat, trunk-or-treat, and a spook house with games. There were more than 350 kids, plus their parents, who listened, danced, clapped and sang with us. Our group consisted of a motley crew that included a tattooed witch and devil, a pirate, a wizard, a possum, and others.

At the Jammers Jam on Nov. 5, we had special guests of 11 kids ranging in age from four to high school, accompanied by a couple of the parents, and playing fiddle, guitar, ukelele, tin whistle, cello, and banjo at all levels of play. They had a great time and were encouraged to come back (said they would!). We also had a lady from Delaware who is visiting but plans to move here in the spring. She played as a child, but was so impressed with hearing us play at the Central Point Senior Center, that she borrowed a fiddle and played along, with a smile on her face the whole time! She said this really gives her something to look forward to when she moves here.

Elections are coming up sooner than you think. Let the nominating committee know what you want to volunteer for, 'cuz we are a volunteer organization. –and don't forget to renew your

membership to keep current. We still need musicians to play for our regular nursing and retirement homes.

Check out the schedule on the website – and all the other good stuff, too. Our music reaches folks’ hearts in ways we never realize. Keep sharing your talents to encourage others. In other words: “aspire to inspire before you expire”. But really, I plan to live forever – and so far, so good!

District 4 reporter: Judy McGarvey [jmcgarvey97@charter.net](mailto:jmcgarvey97@charter.net)

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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### District 5

Chairman: Ruth Weyer 541-759-3419  
Co-Chair: Pat Casey 541-756-0659  
Secretary: Jolly Hibbits 541-347-2229  
Treasurer: Mapril Combs 541-572-5532  
Membership: Jolly Hibbits 541-347-2229  
Reporter: Mary A. Weist 541-271-2463 [mweist@charter.net](mailto:mweist@charter.net)

### December

3	Oerdings, Coquille		1:20 p.m.
3	Myrtle Point Care Center		3:00 p.m.
10	Baycrest Memory Care		1:15 p.m.
10	Ocean Crest		2:30 p.m.
17	Heritage Place, Bandon		1:00 p.m.
20	Monthly Jam	Winchester Bay	1:00 p.m.
24	Hearthside		1:00 p.m.
24	Baycrest		2:30 p.m.

As predicted, there was lots of delicious food and many good friends with whom to share it at the annual holiday potluck dinner and following monthly jam on November 15 at the Winchester Bay Community Center. We noticed several new people there to enjoy the music and win most of the raffle prizes and hope they will be returning for future performances. Other than the regularly scheduled monthly nursing home gigs, there are no extra scheduled events this month.

At the business meeting held prior to the jam last month, it was announced that the annual three-day campout and jam in Winchester Bay in 2009 will be held August 19-23 and the state convention in Rickreall will be held April 9-11. Let’s all plan to attend these fun events and take our friends along, too.

A guest performer at last month's jam was Oren Pruet's brother, Don, from New Mexico, who was here for the 50th wedding anniversary of Oren and his wife, Barb. The "Pruet boys", as master of ceremonies, John MacRae, introduced them, sang and played several numbers together which were much enjoyed by the audience. This writer thought that jam was one of the best though all have been enjoyable.

Congratulations and best wishes to all those having birthdays, anniversaries and other special events in their lives this month. And thanks so much to all of you who sang "Happy Birthday" to me at the November jam. Really surprised me and I love you for doing it!

May the joys of the season be yours with all good wishes for a Merry Christmas and happiness, peace and contentment in the year to come and always.

Always keep smiling. Makes 'em wonder what you've been up to.

Mary A. Weist, District 5 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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## District 6

Chairman: Darla Knudsen 541-998-2064

Co-chair: Ken Luse 541-485-1077

Secretary/Treasurer: Bernie Roberts 541-689-5764

Membership: Mark Ratzlaff, 25701 Cochran Court,  
Veneta, OR 97487 541-935-8506

Reporter: Oral Robbins 541-343-4005

## December

7 Jam and Moose-provided dinner Lebanon Moose 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

October was an exciting and busy month for District 6. A group of us played three Saturday afternoons at the Northern Lights Christmas tree Farm for their Colonial Harvest Festival. We even got an honorable mention in the Register Guard as well as pictures of two of our lovely lady musicians. Other groups of our district musicians played for various gigs at nursing homes and also for the Masonic Past Masters Dinner. The masons enjoyed our music very much and the dinner was scrumptious. The fiddle work shops are doing well and producing some very promising new fiddlers. Some of them are helping provide music at our gigs. Although the "Relay for Life" jam held November 1 was not as well attended as the one in May, every one had a good time and the luncheon was excellent as usual. The musicians who participated did themselves proud as the music was great and enjoyed by all who attended.

The annual Thanksgiving potluck and jam November 15 was a big success with about 80 people in attendance. There was food a-plenty and lots of good music, too. There were even a fair

number of dancers on the floor. But the most encouraging thing was the presence of lots of new members, and more fiddle players than we have seen in many a day.

The January monthly potluck and jam will held January 24 at Jasper Grange. There will also be a business meeting, which will start at 10:30 a.m.

Rudi Booher has agreed to do a fiddle workshop on January 31. There will be two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The cost will be \$15 for OOTFA members and \$20 for nonmembers, with a limit of 25 per session. Pre-registration will be required. More details will appear in the January Hoedowner. For additional information and pre-registration, contact Darla Knudsen 541-998-2064

Birthdays; Thelma Steele 12/1, Viola Epperly 12/2, Mark Carmickle 12/6, Rick Dobson 12/10, Brian Neal 12/12, Marlene Chatoian 12/14, Lloyd Shriber 12/23, Della White 12/24, Oral Robbins 12/25, Richard Marino 12/27, Ellen Strelow 12/27 and Joan Nelson.

Anniversaries; Frank and Frieda Chandler 12/9, Dave and Lena Stubbs 12/11, Bob and Ellen Strelow 12/17 and Gary and Viola Epperly 12/27.

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Food for thought:

If you don't know where you are going, you don't have to worry about being late getting there.

Oral Robbins, District 6 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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District 7

Chairman: Randy Yearout 971-998-8227

Co-Chair: Donna Foreman 503-630-3577

Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Zabudsky 503-630-7499

Membership: Myrtle Arnold, 2941 SE Lewellyn Ave.  
Troutdale, OR 97060 503-666-3529

Reporter: Gail Foster 503-977-1665 [Fosterge@msn.com](mailto:Fosterge@msn.com)

Scheduler: Linda Easley 503-235-1671 [LEasley406@aol.com](mailto:LEasley406@aol.com)

December

14 Christmas Buffet and Jam

Estacada Senior Center

12-4 p.m.

January

18 Gladstone Senior Center

District 7 recently lost two good members. Condolences of the membership go to the family and friends of Don Lanz, a terrific all-around musician, who died unexpectedly. Lila Bill's mother, Violet Vest, died on Veteran's Day, which was Lila's birthday. She was two weeks shy of her 95th birthday. She loved our music.

December 14 we'll have our holiday buffet at the Estacada Senior Center from 12 noon until about 4 p.m. The Center is at 200 SW Clubhouse Drive in Estacada. Turn right at the first light in town, then right again immediately, then down the hill to the Center. The price will be between \$10 and \$12. Kelly will do a nice buffet for us.

Sunday January 18 we'll have our OOTFA Jam at the Gladstone Senior Center at 1050 Portland Avenue in Gladstone. We can get in the doors starting about 11:00 a.m. for informal jamming; the sign-up jam starts at 1 p.m. The public is invited.

Gail Foster, District 7 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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## District 8

Chairman: Lew Holt 503-391-5377 [lewholt@aol.com](mailto:lewholt@aol.com)  
Co-Chair: Darlene Bryant 503-362-0172 [jdbryant@wvi.com](mailto:jdbryant@wvi.com)  
Secretary: Marie Cunningham [raymar@gotsky.com](mailto:raymar@gotsky.com)  
Treasurer: Wally Case 503-678-5548 [CaseWB@centurytel.net](mailto:CaseWB@centurytel.net)  
Membership: Wally Case, 12222 Fry Road NE, Aurora, OR 97002

December			
20	Jam	Senior Center	McMinnville
January			
17	Jam and workshop	Senior Center	McMinnville
February			
21	Jam	Senior Center	McMinnville

District 8 musicians entertained on four different days at French Prairie Nursery in October making \$500. The first time it was drizzly, but the other days were sunny and pleasant. We had from 12 to 15 musicians each time. Thanks to all who came!

Happy 95th birthday to Don Simons, long time member of district 8. Don is in a care facility in Independence. His family hosted a birthday party for him there, and Don even played his fiddle a bit. A few days after his birthday, Don is in the hospital. Get Well wishes to Don and others who have respiratory and other health issues.

November 15th we held our Holiday Dinner and Jam at McMinnville. Dallas High School Catering students prepared the turkey, ham, dressing, potatoes and gravy. (This is the group that catered our convention banquet last spring). After a bit of trouble with blown circuit breakers at the senior center, we got it all reheated and ready to eat. Just a bit later than usual. What an array of desserts and other dishes you all brought! There was plenty for all. Many, many thanks to the great kitchen crew, Mary Terry, Vi Kimber, Jo Hockenhull, Darlene Bryant and others. The Bryants and the Holts transported the food from Dallas. And a big thank you to Robert Terry and all who helped set up chairs and tables.

When the music started, we heard tunes from 30 musicians and the back up players. Welcome to some new members: Gene Bethea, Marilyn Owen and Brenda Hallgrimson. Three of our young musicians performed: Omar Porras and Chase Dougherty playing guitar, and Brian Stiner on fiddle. Nathan Stiner, Brian's younger brother, is in the cast of a Christmas drama at the Pentacle Theater. Chuck and Pat Gates, and Joe Hamm, all of District 7, joined us. Thanks for coming!

Our December 20th Jam will be at the McMinnville Senior Center. Doors open at 10 a.m. Brown Bag lunch at noon. Open to the public from 1 to 3:30 p.m. for listening and dancing.

January's jam on the 17th will have the same time schedule with the addition of a workshop taught by Jim Hockenhull at 10:30 a.m..

As you will read in the Editor Emeritus column, the OOTFA Contest will be March 20th and 21st. It will be at a different location on the Chemeketa Community College Campus.

Be sure to renew your OOTFA membership for next year. It's \$20 for the whole family. Please send to Wally Case (address in heading). You must renew by early December to receive a January Hoedowner!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

Alice Holt, District 8 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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District 9

Chair: Dona Townsend 541-573-2270

Co.Chair Walt Cooper 541-573-3417  
Sec./Treas./Membership:George Sahlberg 541-573-6517  
Reporter: Julia Milleson 541-573-2770

December

12	Aspens		7 p.m.
14	Holiday Jam and Potluck	Senior Center	
15	Ashley Manor		6:30 p.m.

Florence Krueger hosted a Halloween jam at her house as her sister Opal and her husband Don Mc Guffy from Wyoming were visiting again and also her sister Argetta and husband Pete Williams were there to enjoy the music. With the musicians and two tables of card players, she had a full house.

Ruel Teague showed up at a recent jam with his new toy - a viola and we had fun playing along in "C". Edie Conig who has missed about four years of playing with us showed up with a new mandolin. She had Ruel tune it and show her a few chords and she did really well. She also borrowed a fiddle and played a couple of tunes.

Ron Jahns has had his Taylor guitar re-vamped and he came to a jam and also our Senior Center potluck and jam on Nov. 9. He sang, played banjo and some rousing fiddle tunes. Marianne Andrews brought her violin and played "Milk Cow Blues, Pan Handle Rag and Carpenter of Salas.

We really should have played "Over the Waves" or a sea chanty on Sunday as we had a delightful couple, Alfredo and Alisha, who had been "sailing around the world" for twelve years ! Alfredo was from Itlay and Alisha was born in Louisiana but hadn't been there for 26 years. She had been raised with bluegrass and when they had the misfortune to break down in Burns they bought a paper and discovered our jam. They plan to winter in Idaho and get in some skiing before continuing their touring next spring.

Following our jam, president Dona Townsend had a business meeting and brought us up to date on the happenings at Merrill . We also made plans for our holiday dinner to be held at our next Senior Center jam on December 14. The club provides the turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy; everyone is asked to bring a potluck dish to round out the meal. Bring your appetite and come join us. It was also voted to have five door prizes.

Other December play dates are the Aspens at 7 p.m. Friday, December 12 with Ashley Manor to follow on Monday December 15 at 6:30 p.m.

We've had one brief snow and it's been windy and cold so old man winter is sneaking up on us. Hope everyone is all set for a wonderful Christmas season.

Please get your \$20 dues into treasurer George Salberg so you don't miss out on your "Hoedowner".

Julia Milleson, District 9 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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District 10

Chairman: Don Hamlin 541-673-5689

Co-Chair: Barbara Sullivan 541-673-898

Secretary and Membership: Jo Barnes 541-459-4522, 255 Raintree Avenue, Sutherland, OR 97479

Treasurer: Gynn Deaton 541-839-4501

Reporter: Joyce Pickett 541-459-5690 [fiddlerjoyce@hotmail.com](mailto:fiddlerjoyce@hotmail.com)

December

13 Christmas Jam and Potluck Buckaroo Barn 1 p.m.

We had a very nice crowd for the Thanksgiving potluck and jam. Thanks to everyone that brought all the delicious food; we had lots of it.

The jam went great, we had many guests and visitors, including Ella Savery, and Harold Householder from district 5. It was nice seeing them again. Don Hamlin's family was there, and some he hadn't seen in quite awhile. Everyone had a good time.

It was nice seeing Margie Hastey out and about again. Hope everyone that's under the weather will be out soon.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all that had them. I don't have a list of them, but you know who you are.

We've been playing at the nursing homes, and two retirement centers every month.

Our Christmas potluck (noon) and jam (1 p.m.) will be December 13 at the Buckaroo Barn. Hope to see you all there to eat, play, dance, and visit.

Joyce Pickett, District 10 Reporter

Time to renew for 2009! Get your \$20 renewal to your District membership person.

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Greetings From Your President:

I can't believe this is fall. It is 74 degrees and the sun is shining in Florence!!

I have not yet had any nominations for the Distinguished Service Award, Be sure to get your nominees to your District chairpersons, as I need to have them in hand by January 1.

Our Winter Board meeting will be held on January 10, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at the Riverdale Grange in Roseburg. To get to the Grange take Exit 125 from I5. Go West on Garden Valley Road to the Grange at 4856 Garden Valley Rd, about 4.5 miles. The grange is on the left side of the road. This will be our first board meeting that we will try to conduct via teleconference for those board members who are unable to make the meeting in person. We will be discussing the State Contest and the State Convention. After the meeting there will be a potluck and jam session. Please come if you can. The doors will open around 9 a.m.

For those who are not aware, the dates of the State Fiddle Contest have been changed to March 20-21 at the Chemeketa Auditorium in Salem. This is a wonderful facility with comfortable seats in a real auditorium setting. The other facility that we have used over the past many years was no longer available to us and this was the best alternative. More information will be forthcoming.

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a safe and Happy New Year.

Hal

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From the Editor Emeritus:

I would like to call your attention to OOTFA's "unsung hero." His name is Mark Ratzlaff, Mark is membership chairman for the state. Many evenings Mark works with membership changes that the district membership people send to him. He works on next year's roster, he sends address changes to the publisher of the Hoedowner, he adds new members, he drops unpaid members. Next March he will get letters and phone calls telling him that people aren't getting their Hoedowners. He will ask if they renewed and will be told that they have. So he will ask them to check their returned check or their membership card. And then a week or two later they will say, "I thought I renewed but guess that I didn't it." So why don't you pay your district membership person "right now."

A friend wrote to me recently asking about changes in contests for the coming year. I would imagine that others of you are asking the same question so I'll attempt to answer.

1) No Gaston this year. Is that a temporary or permanent change?

I feel that it is permanent -- unless somebody else should pick it up but I doubt it. They have lost the workers needed to put on a community contest.

2) The state contest is moved to March. Is that a permanent change?

I feel that it is. The gym is no longer available and I would be surprised if it should become available. The auditorium -- a beautiful facility, cheaper and actually more functional will never be available in May because of their obligation to public schools -- which come first over a fiddle contest. The March date, we more or less have been assured, will always be available during March

3) Any input on why things are being rearranged would be helpful.

Nothing was done just because we wanted to change -- the changes were forced on us. The high school in building 50 is no longer willing to give up a room Friday afternoon for a warm up room, no longer willing to give us a judge's room -- we could continue in the chair/table room but that is not the best room for the judges. The gym is not available on Friday afternoon until 5:00. Again, no judges' room for Saturday. So this combination of reasons forced us out of the gym and caused us to look elsewhere.

The Chemeketa auditorium is much nicer. The rent is \$250 less plus the sound/PA system is furnished at no extra cost. It cost us \$400 last year. So the total rent/PA is something like \$650 less than the gym. The auditorium was not available during May but the March date was available so we thought we had better "go for it." I'll be encouraging you all winter and spring to drop by the contest this year. I think you will be impressed by the facilities. I'll be encouraging districts to donate, too!

Lew

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From the Editor:

**Denny Langford** writes to request that we publicize the Third Annual Old Time Fiddle Contest, to be held at the Union County Fairgrounds in LeGrande next July 30. There will be \$3275 in cash prizes plus trophies. For more information contact Val Stockoff at [vstockoff@eoni.com](mailto:vstockoff@eoni.com), or call him at 541.562.5873.

**Rudi Booher** has agreed to do a fiddle workshop January at a place still to be determined in the Eugene area. The workshop will have two sessions, both intended for intermediate fiddlers. The workshop is limited to a fifty person total enrollment, but is open to anyone in the state. For additional information, contact District Six Chairperson Darla Knudsen.

**Nancy Rohn**, who has a fiddle repair shop in Corvallis, writes: "I've been here since 1989. I help sponsor the Willamette Valley Fiddle Contest which is held

annually at the Benton County Fair in Corvallis. I also help sponsor the Monumental Fiddle Contest held at Homestead National Monument in Beatrice, Nebraska, where I grew up.

“I offer a full-service shop for repairs, restorations, assessments, accessories, rentals, and sales of new and used instruments of the violin family (including basses). emphasize education on how the instrument is constructed and its proper care. I received my luthier training at the Kenneth Warren Violin Making School from 1978-1981 in Chicago, Illinois.

I don't have a website up yet but hope to accomplish that soon. You might think about sending a fiddle UPS or Fed-Ex to avoid a drive to see me. If you would like to visit, please call ahead - shop hours are by appointment only. The phone number is 541-754-9612. I'm located at 810 SE Park Street; Corvallis, OR 97333. Keep on fiddling! “

Joe

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New Members to Welcome:

More news on new members next month, but in the meantime:

**Time to renew for 2009! Send a \$20 check made to "OOTFA" to your District membership person listed in the District news.**

Mark Ratzlaff, OOTFA State Membership

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