

THE OREGON • OLD TIME • FIDDLERS' HOEDOWNER

Volume 25, Issue 12

1964 – 2017

www.ootfa.org

December 2017



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From Your President

By the time this article gets disseminated, Thanksgiving will have been celebrated and the Christmas celebration will be well on its way. It's my hope all our members have enjoyed their Thanksgiving Holiday. Meanwhile, I must have hit a nerve in my last article as I received more mail as a result than normal. The communiques were about a subject I've heard ever since I became a member some 17 years ago. That is, "What is old time music"? And should we be concerned about it? Well, in the first place, Article II in our association's by-laws state that our purpose for existence is to promote old time fiddling and old time music. Obviously trying to define it is like trying to discuss why we don't use amplified instruments, when using a mic is amplification!

Another subject we are always discussing is the topic of membership. And indeed we should be--to see if there is a good reason for a decline or an increase. My take is there are many reasons for either. It's a Biggy though, as it is a good barometer of what is happening to an organization.

Communication for any organization is critical. And not just from the top down. In the past, I relied on the idea that anyone with ideas or complaints would pass their ideas up through the district chairs to our quarterly board meetings, or to me directly. This has happened occasionally, but perhaps now is the time for another approach. It has been suggested we try to use a public forum piece in the Hoedowner--something similar to what we are doing now with the "swap meet/sell" space. Only this would be for you to express your appreciations or concerns about your organization. I realize this might seem like opening a "can of worms", but on the other hand it could be a really good way of getting more of us involved. I would like everyone to be thinking about this and send me your thoughts so I can bring it up at our January quarterly meeting. In the meantime, thanks to everyone for making this OOTFA the best in the West.

~ Jim

NEW MEMBERS FOR NOVEMBER 2017

Sharilyn Ame
Kelly Furness
Eric and Renee Hanson
Tamra, Reagan and Caden Hunt
Katie Joesph, David, Nathanael, Nicholas,
Zachary, Samuel and Mary Johnson
Ross Jones
Paul Klatt
David Madison
Kirk Mlinek
Ken Owens
Wanda Petitt and Sky Hayes
Beverly Power
Paige Radke
Eric Rogstad
Timothy Turner
Frances Ussing
Karen and Jim Van Delden
Linda Wilkstrum and Grayson Munoz
Kate and Rick Williams

Corvallis
Ashland
Medford
Coquille

Coos Bay
Medford
Jacksonville
Eugene
Florence
Eagle Point
North Bend
Medford
Bandon
Beaverton
Bandon
Chiloquin
Grants Pass
Central Point
Jacksonville

Over the past several months, we have lost some members as well as member loved ones. Our comforting thoughts go out to the family and friends of these members.

- District 9: Allan Brayman, father of OOTFA member Janet Brayman. Allan led a full life including military service in the Air Force which led him to Burns, Oregon. He and his wife, Pauline were celebrating 60 years of marriage.
- District 9: Lifetime member Pearl Perry Sahlberg, wife of our dedicated Membership Chair for District 9, George Sahlberg. You could find them both sitting at the registration table during the High Desert Jamboree.
- District 9: District 9 Lifetime Member, Janet Zekel.
- District 10: Lifetime member Anna Cooper. She had been a member in Roseburg for many years.
- District 6: Lifetime member, Ed Sather, leaves behind his wife, Dorothy.
- District 6: J.B. Steele of Eugene. A Lifetime Member who leaves behind his wife, Thelma.
- District 4: Medford resident and Lifetime member, Lenora Guthrie. Her husband, Lem, died in 2016. They were a big part of their district.
- District 4: Lifetime member, Stanley Sullins, who had enjoyed the music in Medford for many years.
- District 4: Joe Corder lived in Eagle Point with his wife, Delsa.
- District 1: Fred Stiverson, a Lifetime Member who with his partner, Loraine Degnan, had been active members.
- District 1: Jean Standiford, an active Lifetime member for many years.

The 2018 OOTFA Roster will have a section with the names of those we lost from January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017. A similar list was in the current, 2017 OOTFA Roster. Please notify Patti Luse at pattiluse@comcast.net or 541-915-3231.

From the Editor:

As I think about what I'm grateful for at the end of this year, YOU and the music we share are among the first things that come to mind. At this time in my life, with kids launched and career finished... fiddling has been a way to keep learning, creating, and reaching goals. I'm motivated and energized by our gatherings, and I'm inspired by your generosity and musicianship. I wish you a very happy holiday.

~ Karen

From the Editor Emeritus



OOTFA came about because of many old timers that have given our association the prominence that it has today. Let's not forget them. I would like to share Minnie Springer with you. Her humble beginning show her willingness to play the fiddle-- before TV, cell phones and other modern distractions of our modern age.

Minnie Springer from Klamath Falls, OR was born in 1896. She joined OOTFA in 1978, and she played the fiddle a total of 79 years. Minnie writes: "At age 4 I learned to play the old pump organ and the harmonica. My brother played the fiddle, and I would often second for him. When I was eleven, I learned the "hard way" to play the fiddle, which only had three strings. He had broken the bow so made one out of a willow using mother's sewing thread "in place of horse hair." For rosin he took the hard brittle rosin from a pine tree, I used that combination until he finally bought a bow and an E string. I didn't know how to use 4 strings, it bothered me! Finally, I got the hang of it,

I probably drove everyone out of their minds, but to me, it was beautiful! About that time, a man from Germany came to visit us, and he gave me an accordion, a small one. I learned to play it but wasn't too interested, so kept sawing on the fiddle. And I am still sawing away. I hope they need fiddlers in Heaven, as I hope to go there someday."

~ Lew

District 1 (Klamath Falls Area)

Chairman: Ben Coker, 541-783-3478, benfcoker@gmail.com
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Secretary: Edna Jenkins, 541-891-9155, ednaspics@yahoo.com
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 Linda Stroup, 541-891-6131
Correspondence/Historian: Karen Ayers, 541-783-2970
Reporter: Jenny Dreyer, 541-205-6397
Scheduler: Irene Ruddock, 541-882-6418/Ben Coker, 541-783-3478

December Events

10	meeting/jam	Shasta Grange	12:15-3 p.m.
12	Junior Fiddler Recital	Shasta Grange	5 p.m.
14	gig	Quail Park (Bistro)	10:30-11:30 a.m.
14	gig	Rogue River Place	1-2 p.m.
21	gig	Plum Ridge	10:30-11:30 a.m.
21	gig	Pacifica/Brookdale	1-2 p.m.

Practice on Saturdays 1-4 p.m. Luther Square; check with Irene Ruddock for date and times 541-882-6418.



Some, but unfortunately not All....District 1 Ladies enjoying a night out to the Quebe Sisters concert at the Ross Ragland Theater.

Merry Christmas Wishes to you all. We closed out November with one of the best meetings/jam that District 1 has had, in recent memory anyways! It was very well attended. We easily had 30 listeners and 10+ musicians. It was a fun time. Also in November, a large group of District 1 ladies attended the Quebe concert at the Ross Ragland Theater. A-mazing, it was a great night! At the concert, we saw The McLain Clan, as well as Mr. Sherm, Mr. Merv and Ms. Marie. No one left that concert disappointed! After the concert, it was really fun speaking with the Quebe's and getting our picture taken with them; they were great on-stage and off. Special thanks goes out to Joyce Furlong for setting up the "Ladies Night Out" and putting it all together...thanks Joyce.

Continued on page 3

District 1 (continued from page 2)

I would like to expand on a quote that was in last month's Junior Hoedowner. At the end of the article, Garitt said "We need to get young people interested in playing the old tunes." As a mom of a young fiddler(s)...my daughter is 14 and my son is 5, he's a wanna-be fiddler at this point (have fiddle will saw!) BUT, I've dealt with this topic a lot. How to keep them interested in music. You may not like it, but technology IS YOUR FRIEND in this matter! We use our iPhone every week to learn new songs! At the weekly jam, we make note of songs we like, ask the name, what key. We then take video of the song being played at tempo, with back-up. Our songs record with fiddle/guitar. We then take another video...ONLY with the fiddle and with the song being played as slow as humanly possible (harder than you think) and that's IT folks! The rest is up to us....we go home, listen, struggle, we view it as homework, we learn. Once we have the basics down, we play

District 1E (Lakeview, Silver Lake Area)

Chairperson: Mary Ann McLain, 541-947-2448

Vice-Chair: Nancy Yialouris, 707-227-0753

Secretary-Treasurer: Sharilyn McLain, 541-219-0896

P.O. Box 603, Lakeview OR 97630

Reporter: Nancy Yialouris, 707-227-0753

I mentioned last month that most of our district could be found in Klamath Falls on the first Saturday in November. Despite the questionable weather that day, all but 2 of our active District 1E members attended a concert by the Quebe Sisters that evening and we were surprised to see so many other Old Time Fiddlers from the area in attendance, too! It could be described as an end of the year Silver Lake Mini-Reunion! The concert was excellent and it was fun to see so many familiar faces.

December is a busy month for holiday performances around our state and around the country. We will be playing December 1 at our annual Christmas Fair. The craft fair opens Friday night for 3 hours and will be open all day Saturday. If the weather cooperates, Joyce Furlong from District 1 will join us with her banjo and bass for the gig and will stay over to jam with us on Saturday. There may be others who will brave the road to join us to take advantage of both the gig and our First Saturday Jam the next afternoon.

It occurred to me that I never followed up regarding Puget Sound Guitar Workshop, attended by Joan Suther (District 9) and myself in mid-August. This camp is billed as a "guitar workshop," but there are excellent fiddlers, banjo, mandolin, and Dobro players there too. It was Joan's first time and my 4th time to attend that adult music camp, though I hadn't attended since just before the turn of the century. We both took different classes that week, Joan concentrating on introduction to playing swing music, taught by Sylvia Herold, bluegrass guitar, taught by David Keenan and building vocal harmonies, taught by Ed Johnson. All three instructors are well known musicians who have performed and taught for many years. Joan confided on the long drive up to the Belfair, WA region that she was more excited about attending PSGW than she'd been about anything for a long time.

District 3 (Bend, Redmond, The Dalles Area)

Chairman: Jeannette Bondsteel, 541-410-5146 • jbond@bendcable.com

Vice Chair: Glen Churchfield, 740-681-9640 • glen@churchfield.net

Secretary: Vivian Tucker, 541-420-5794 • 7spanishangels@outlook.com

Treasurer: Ed Fritz, 541-504-4209 • edfritzguitars2@gmail.com

Membership: Teri Tucker, 503-930-6775 • tjtucker0605@outlook.com
2835 S. Adams Drive • Madras OR 97741

Reporters: Kim Martin 360-852-2413 • crgypsy@live.com

Pat Borden 541-408-7181 • pattyann335@gmail.com

Website: www.centraloregonfiddlers.com

the song with the other video, the one that's up to tempo and WITH BACK-UP. It's a beautiful marriage! Plus, you're speaking the language of kids today with this method. It's familiar to them and they really respond to it. Give it a try! It just may be the ticket to more practice and songs played well with the back-up!

Junior Fiddler's Recital on the 12th at Shasta Grange Hall at 5 p.m. Hope to see you there!

December Birthdays: Irene Ruddock, Dana Scott, Merv Woodard.
December Anniversaries: Jake and Aline Swartwood, Phil and Carol Fulbright.

Let me know if I missed anyone!

~ Jenny Dreyer, District 1 Reporter ☺

December Events

1	Annual Christmas Fair	Lake Co. Fairgrounds	6-8 p.m.
2	First Saturday Jam	Chamber of Commerce	2 p.m.
4	Business Meeting	Chamber of Commerce	7 p.m.
7 & 14	jam	Rosa Lee's House	5 p.m.
21 & 28	jams canceled	Happy Holidays to everyone!	See you in January.

As the week progressed she told me that her experience was "even better than she'd imagined."

I took an advanced swing repertoire class from Sylvia Herold, a Delta Blues class taught by Joe Newberry, and I made myself take a "hands on theory class," taught by John Knowles, a man I'd met decades ago whose guitar playing is like warm butter and whose teaching techniques are excellent. Sylvia Herold is an excellent jazz/swing rhythm player whose vocal work is gorgeous. She's well known in the greater Bay Area in Northern CA and all over the West Coast in general, playing and singing both jazz and Celtic music. Joe Newberry is a well known songwriter, whose songs have been picked up by The Gibson Brothers and Special Consensus, as well as others. He sings as well as plays banjo and guitar. David Keenan has performed in the NW and like all the others, has recorded playing lead guitar for several NW performers. Ed Johnson writes and performs jazz, Cuban and Brazilian musical styles. His attention to complex harmonies is unmatched. Our exposure to musicians of that caliber was an inspiration to both of us. We came home with material that will keep us busy over the winter, and then some!

In addition to the classes I took each day, I was lucky enough to meet Laurel Bliss, so I cornered her and asked if she'd work with me on the Dobro. That turned out to be one of the highlights of my experience at PSGW. I would encourage anyone who is serious about improving their skills to check out the PSGW website to view the offerings and the instructors and then plan to take in a week of wonderful instruction and non-stop jamming with some very accomplished players just like you!

~ Nancy Yialouris, District 1E Reporter

December Events

10	2nd Sunday/Jam	DancePowell Butte CC	1-3:30 p.m.
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District 3 Continued from page 3

Howdy from District 3,

Winter is in Central Oregon! We have already had some snow. Hopefully all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and were also able to get out and enjoy the Veteran's Day celebrations. Our 2nd potluck of the year will be our Christmas Potluck on December 10, prior to the 2nd Sunday Jam Dance. We will have good friends, a meal, music and dancing. What could be better?!

OOTFA District 3 will provide the turkey, coffee, and dinnerware. Everyone else needs to bring a casserole AND a dessert, condiment or something special to add to the table. Here's the schedule: 10-11:30 a.m.--set up, 11:30-12:45 p.m.--eat & socialize, 12:45 p.m. --cleanup, 1-3 p.m.--jamming and dancing.

We had really nice weather for our Jam/Dance on November 12, and it was very well attended with 50 guests and 22 musicians. District 3 would like to thank our guests and musicians as they make this event possible! Also appreciated is the help from the guests who stayed and helped clean the hall. We saw lots of different dances ...line dancers, waltzes, 2 steps! Our folks really know how to dance. There were several new faces, including Amber Turnage, her mother and friend, Kat. Amber is the music director for the Powell Butte Cowboy Church and we would be delighted if she and Kat would join us in District 3. A family from Bend were 1st time visitors and prospective members as the youngest Max, wants to learn the guitar, and the family also dances.

District 4 (Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland Area)

Chairman: Gene Grant, 541-621-5247, savagesheik@gmail.com.

Co-Chair: Scotty Phillips, 541-601-5753, scottp307@gmail.com

Secretary: Ron Bolstad 541-488-3593, bolstad@mind.net

Treasurer: Barbara Basden 541-772-0579 barbara.basden@gmail.com

Membership Co-Chair: Carol Ferrara, lencarol2000@gmail.com and Jessie Lotts, jessielotts22@gmail.com

Fiddle Rustler: Ross Jones, 206-595-8442, falcon259@gmail.com

Reporter: Judy Lyons, 541-956-0618, blacklyon@charter.net

District 4 Website: www.OOTFA4.org Check Us Out!

District 4 members are inviting all members, statewide, to come join us on Saturday December 2 at the Roxy Ann Grange in Medford, as we celebrate Don Maddox's birthday and his life achievements. Don and Barbara are life members of OOTFA, and Don is the last surviving member of "The Most Colorful Hillbilly Band" The Maddox Brothers and Rose, that were popular in the fifties. There will be a short meeting at 11:30. The party will begin at noon. The music will begin with a fiddle jam at 12:30 p.m. and sign-up jams 1-3 p.m. We will be acknowledging Don throughout the afternoon. We will have cake and ice cream provided, so please bring snacks to share. Bring your instruments and join the fun.

We were pleased to have Sharon and Hal Thompson and Jim Kuether from District 10 as well as Ruth Weyer from District 5 come visit us at the November Jam. Hal and Jim performed several tunes, and Sharon and Ruth visited with everyone. Cathy Frutche's sister, Judy, also paid us a visit and joined in our gig at Rogue Valley retirement center and also the Wednesday night jam. It is so great when friends from other districts come perform with us and add to our fun.

This month has brought a loss to our district, as we have had two members pass away. Joe Corder, Delsa's husband, died the second week of November. We also lost Stan Sullins recently. Stan was a quiet, thoughtful life member who would bring several friends with him to the monthly jams. We will miss them. Lola Williams recently had surgery on her shoulder and is recovering at Hearthstone. Marilyn Bolstad has been home bound for several weeks due to a fall. Jon

Best wishes go out to Tommy Tucker who will have knee surgery on November 20.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

~Kim Martin and Pat Borden District 3 Reporters



District 3's youngest prospective musician, Max. He is anxious to start on the guitar and is shown here dancing with his mom.

December Events

2 jam/meeting Roxy Ann Grange, Medford celebrating Don Maddox's 95th

Renfro, one of our wonderful guitar pickers, is not yet 100 percent from his surgery a year ago. Dottie and Jim Winslow also need your kind thoughts. All these would benefit from a phone call, email or card of encouragement to remind them they are greatly missed.

After the holidays, our monthly jam and meeting will be on January 6 at Fruitdale Grange in Grants Pass. See y'all soon.

~ Judy Lyons, District 4 Reporter



Ruth Weyer, Scott Phillips and Sharon Thompson at the November district 4 jam in Eagle Point.



Melinda Grant (center) is joined by sisters, Cathy Frutche (far right) and Judy Clements (left) at a District 4 jam.

THE HOEDOWNER

Volume 11, No. 12

December 2017

2018 FIDDLE CONTEST NEWS from Eileen Walter

Greetings Fiddlers and Fans of Fiddling:
The fiddle contest is only 3 and ½ months away!

I sincerely hope that you will participate as a contestant, a volunteer, or as a member of the audience. The date is **March 17th** and the contest will be held once again in the **Building 6 auditorium at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.**

Here are basic directions to the contest site:

Exit from I-5 at the Market Street exit; travel east on Market Street; turn left on Lancaster Avenue; turn right on Silverton Road; turn left at the first traffic light – you will be on 45th – travel approximately ½ mile – Building 6 will be on your left – there is a large parking lot in front.

I am pleased to announce our great panel of well qualified judges:

- Jacie Sites from Rigby, Idaho,
- Dan Touchstone from San Diego, California
- Dan Stewart from Spokane, Washington.

The schedule will be similar to last year with a few small changes – it will be published in the January Hoedowner.

This edition of the Hoedowner includes a Pre-Registration form which is similar to last year's form. There is **no charge to pre-register. If you register at the contest, the entry fee will be \$10.00.** To pre-register, you can mail the form to me, email me, text me, or call me on the phone with your information prior to March 15th. If you're mailing the form, leave several days for it to get to me:

Eileen Walter gdaewalt@comcast.net 503-701-1578
6020 SE Lexington Street, Portland, OR 97206

The really exciting news about the contest is that it is now open to contestants from any state or country (provided they are members of OOTFA). The highest placing Oregonian in each division will be certified to Weiser. The rest of the rules remain the same and have been posted to the oregonoldtimefiddling.org website. Oregon is one of the last states to open the state contest – this move has been successful everywhere. Adding additional fiddlers makes a more exciting contest.

I'm looking for **volunteers** – volunteering at the contest is fun. We had a great crew last year and I'm hoping you'll all return – I can't do it without you!

I'm also looking for **donations** – we can't operate the contest without those either. We had some very generous contributions last year, for which I'm extremely grateful. Donations should be sent to our Treasurer, Sharon Thompson, P.O. Box 117, Glide, Oregon 97443.

Let me know if I can answer any questions. I look forward to seeing you on March 17!

~Eileen Walter, Contest Director



Eileen Walter at the awards table 2016!



Contestants in 2015 with trophies!!!



One of the 2016 contestants concentrating on his piece.

2018 Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Annual Contest Pre-Registration & Regular Registration Form

*Please note: Contestants must be members of the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association.
(you may join at the contest site on the day of the contest)*

Contestants may enter only one of the following divisions, in addition to the Anything Goes Division and/or the Twin Fiddle Division. Contestants entering the Anything Goes and/or the Twin Fiddle Division are not required to enter a regular division.

The entry fee is \$10.00 at the contest. There is no charge for those contestants who pre-register. Pre-register by mail prior to March 12, or by email, text message, or phone call prior to March 15 to: Eileen Walter 6020 SE Lexington, Portland, OR 97206 503-701-1578 gdaewalt@comcast.net

Circle or Underline those divisions you are entering:

Open (or Championship) – any age

Senior Senior – 70 or older

Senior – 60 to 69

Adult – 37 to 59

Young Adult – 18 to 36

Junior – 13 to 17

Junior Junior – 9 to 12

Small Fry – 8 or younger

Anything Goes – any age

Twin Fiddle – any age

Twin Fiddle partner's name _____

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Please provide your Date of Birth (all divisions) _____

District 5 (Southern Coast Area)

Chair: Dawn Vonderlin, 541-347-4561, dawndoreen@hotmail.com
Vice Chair: Gayle Triplett, 541-396-2557, gtripletrn@yahoo.com
Secretary: Jolly Hibbits, 541-347-2229, egretflats@wildblue.net
Treasurer: Ruth Weyer, 541-759-3419, mapaweyer@frontier.com
Membership: Dawn Vonderlin, 541-347-4561, dawndoreen@hotmail.com
Reporter: Susan Joubert, 541-266-0584, sjou686514@aol.com

It is time to pull out the raincoats and boots from your closets if you live in certain areas of Oregon. It is a stormy day here and the rain is as determined today as it was on October 21, when we had our meeting in Winchester Bay. It is always great having a quorum, which we did; we discussed the outcome of our camp-out, our Christmas dinner, finances, donations, sound equipment, attendance, and a few other sundry items. As there are 5 Wednesdays in November, Verna offered to host a jam at her house on November 29th for the purpose of practicing Christmas songs. There will be a potluck starting at noon followed by jamming until the last one leaves. Please bring a side dish to share. Our next business meeting will be February 17, 2018 in Winchester Bay. Eight of our musicians played on November 5 at the Green Trees Village, a gated community in Florence. They were part of a musical afternoon as other groups played at different times.

I am excited to introduce our new reporter, Kriss Fenton, to you. She is one of our newest members who has gifted us with her great singing and guitar playing ability. Kriss shares the following:

"I was born in Baker City, and grew up in Port Orford. As a youngster I was surrounded by a musical family and in addition to my grandmother playing the piano, I heard guitars, banjos and horns, just to name a few. Although my younger sister picked up piano playing very early, I did not try to play guitar until 1979. It was then that I learned 3 chords from a friend and struggled on my own to make it sound like grandma's old songs.

I became an Activity Program Director in 1994 and discovered the Old Time Fiddlers. These wonderful people loved coming to entertain

District 6 (Eugene, Corvallis, Lebanon Area)

Chairman: Peggy Mulder, 541-912-4040, peggy@brasscreek.com
Vice-Chair: Amy Burrow, 541-998-6294, aru.bur6294@gmail.com
Secretary: Shirley Nemke, 541-357-4832, ShirleyNemke@gmail.com
Treasurer: Bernie Roberts, 541-689-5764, beroberts285@comcast.net
Membership: Linda Parks, 541-905-2313, LindaParks1980@gmail.com, 36989 Deadwood Dr., Lebanon, OR 97355
Reporter: Amy Burrow, 541-998-6294, aru.bur6294@gmail.com

Well, a body sure needn't travel far to be entertained by our creative and talented musicians. There were fifty-some of us at the Thanksgiving jam and potluck at Central Grange, which was a blast! Folks who hadn't been attending events for a while came out to celebrate and we raised the roof with music and merriment. If you missed this event, try to join us next month at any of the jams or classes listed on our calendar. This would be a perfect opportunity to join or to renew your OOTFA membership!!

District 6 players dominated the stage at the November Emerald Valley Opry, where the audience was treated to performances from ten of our members in three out of the five bands.

- John Gent, Sandy Wallrich, with Mila Butler and Brian Lightheart, performed as Backporch Soiree. Mila's bass riffs brought great applause and the foursome's tight harmonies were delicious.
- The New Folksters animated the nearly-full house with some rollicking sing-along numbers. Keith Barr, Hal Weiner, Bev Shriver and Ken Luse comprise the Folksters, who have bookings all over the place, including Maui.

December Events

6	gig	Myrtle Point Care Center, Myrtle Point	2:30-3:30 p.m.
13	gig	Baycrest, North Bend	1:30-2:30 p.m.
13	gig	Evergreen Ct., North Bend	3-4 p.m.
20	gig	Pacific View, Bandon	2-3 p.m.
27	gig	Avamere, Coos Bay	1-2 p.m.

the seniors. They played songs which the elderly knew. I was invited to play along! In 2006 I relocated to Eugene to take a new facility and sought out the local OOTFA, District 6. They quickly became part of our regular calendar of preferred activities! I witnessed amazing responses from the elders in my care. This residence specialized in Alzheimer's/ Dementia care. We know they have difficulty recalling their memories but, by golly, they knew every word to "You Are My Sunshine". With OOTFA's support we touched minds and hearts. Family members joined our programs and saw the happiness in the room for themselves. I do not believe there is a better endorsement for the Old Time Fiddlers Association than the music therapy they provide for the care homes and their communities. I am proud to be a part of that commitment."

Our dear friend and lifetime member Mary Weist celebrated her 90th birthday on November 16 of this year. Over the years she has been a most faithful member and in fact was our reporter for, probably what seemed like eons to her. Mary has been extremely supportive of our younger musicians, and when they played at Evergreen Court, where she now lives, she often had freshly baked cookies for them. Cookies are her specialty, and she always brings some to our events. In addition to the good cheer that she brings to those who know her, she always has a caring smile. We love you Mary.

I have enjoyed being your reporter these last few years. It has been great to have been a member of such a dedicated team that helps keep all our district activities on track. Thank you for your encouragement.

~ Susan Joubert, District 5 Reporter

December Events

1	Eugene Hotel OOTFA Jam	7-8:30 p.m.
2	Intermediate Fiddle Class, River Rd. Annex	1-4 p.m.
4	Basic Fiddle Class, Bethesda Lutheran	1-4 p.m.
7	Old World Deli Jam in Corvallis	7-9 p.m.
8	Elmira Grange Jam	7-9 p.m.
9	Central Grange OOTFA Jam	11-3 p.m.
15	NO YaPoAh Terrace Jam this month	
22	Willakenzie OOTFA Jam	7-9 p.m.

- Mark Ratzlaff has been a long-time member of the Opry House Band and did a fine job spontaneously sitting in with the New Folksters during their set.
- "Dr. Horsehair", Chip Cohen, fiddles with the classic Country Western band, Dusty Herd. He could be heard earlier in the day on the Saturday Market stage at the final outdoor market of the season. He draws a crowd every time, playing his original compositions, and standard Irish, Old-time and Keltzmer tunes.

Next month's Opry lineup will include Linda Danielson, fiddling with the all-female Western band, Slow Ponies. And Tim Cooper will perform with Kathy Boyd and Phoenix Rising. You'll certainly get your five bucks worth of music!

Thelma Steele, Doug Wise, Mark Carmickle, Brian Neal and Delores Talbert took another spin around the sun. Lena and Dave Stubbs and Joanne and Gerald Clark will celebrate anniversaries. Best wishes to all!

~ Amy Burrow, District 6 Reporter

District 7 (Portland, Northern Coast Area)

Chair: Marcella Easley, 503-855-3535, marlueasily@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Donna Foreman, 503-630-3577, foremandd@rconnects.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Ron Zabudsky, 503-630-7499, rdzinstruments@msn.com

Membership: Marcella Easley, 503-855-3535, marlueasily@gmail.com

Reporter: Elaine Schmidt, 503-492-0750, elaineschmidt79@yahoo.com

Scheduler: Ron Zabudsky, 503-630-7499

Happy Holidays, everyone.

District 7 has two great holiday events in December! Our first is at Cherry Park Plaza again. Two months ago we played there to a great crowd, and I know they look forward to some foot-stomping music again on December 1. On December 10, we will have our annual Christmas jam with a festive lunch served at noon for \$12 per person. All are welcome to join us. Menu: turkey with trimmings, salad, vegetable, dessert, and coffee. Sounds yummy!

In October and November, we had several delightful gigs. On October 15 we played at the Harding Grange for our monthly jam. We had a large group of fiddlers, a bass fiddle, banjos, and about five guitars. There was group and individual playing, and we were happy to see some new members there. Also it was good to see Ron and Ella Beatty who cheered us on from the audience. We also thoroughly enjoyed nine-year-old Holly Ackerman who played a few sweet tunes with us.

On November 12 there was a performance at the King City Senior Center. Marcella Easley reported that there was a tremendous turnout of about 150 King City residents who came to hear Oregon Old Time Fiddlers play. They were treated to some fabulous music by District 7 members and some of our champion fiddlers: Donna Foreman, Eileen Walter, Carol Ann Wheeler and her son Grant who had funny comments and great fiddling, and Jim Toussaint who played a hilarious rendition of "Whiskey Before Breakfast". I'm sorry that I was unable to attend this crowd-pleasing event.

District 8 (Salem, McMinnville, Tillamook/Newport Area)

Chairman: Dennis Brutke, 503-835-3723

Vice-Chair: Marie Bailey, 503-835-7185 bambaily36@yahoo.com

Sec: Alice Holt, 503-989-4836 or 503-391-5377 aliceholt@aol.com

Treasurer: Lew Holt, 503-391-5377 lewholt@aol.com

Membership: Donna Janszen 503-585-3033, DANDJJ@msn.com

Reporter: Gayle Clarity, 503-899-7485, gaylrose@gmail.com

Directions to the Dallas jam: Coming from North Dallas go down Main Street (courthouse on your left) to the last traffic light (Washington St), turn left onto Washington Street and left again onto Jefferson Street. 1/2 block from Washington Street, on your left is the Dallas Civic Center, located on the lower floor of the Dallas City Hall. Parking and entrance door are on Jefferson Street.

OOTFA District 8 fiddlers played at Fall City October 21st. Everybody -- musicians and audience -- looked like they were having a good time. Many thanks to the four guitar players who came to back us up: Amelie Redman, Ted Hunt, Dean Boring & Johnnie Williams. We also had a visitor from California who played fiddle with us: Pam Merriweather. On November 10 we played at the Silverton Senior Center. Welcome to Martha Hughes, one of our new members. Thanks to Dean Boring for arranging jams for our scholarship students.

Note from your Vice Chair, Marie: A district is only as active as its members. Please offer your time, your talents and ideas of what you'd like to see us do as an active group. We've dropped many

December Events

- 1 gig Cherry Park Plaza 1323 SW Cherry Park Road Troutdale 3-4 p.m.
- 10 Christmas Jam Estacada Community Center (200 SW Club House Rd), Estacada Lunch at noon, jamming 1-3 p.m.

We have a new member this month-- Bud Harris who plays the fiddle. Welcome to OOTFA, Bud. Hope everyone is enjoying all the beautiful colors of fall!

~ Elaine Schmidt, District 7 Reporter



Nine-year-old Holly Ackerman and Joyce Bergeron (both District 7 fiddlers) playing at the Harding Grange in Estacada

December Events

- 16 3rd Saturday Jam Dallas Sr. Center 945 Jefferson St. 1-3 p.m.

activities due to lack of participation. **Help!** We still need someone to step up and take the Treasurer position and someone to handle publicity. We need someone who is computer savvy to do publicity and put our news on the Website and other social media and someone to work with Lew Holt as an intern to learn the contacts and details for setting up events.

Reminder: it's time to pay your OOTFA Membership dues before the end of the year if you want to be included in the roster. Make the check out to OOTFA and send to Donna Janzen: 1445 25th St. N.E., Salem, OR 97301

If you have news to share of our district or members, please contact me, Gayle Clarity, the new reporter for District 8. If you want to alert members of an activity between Hoedowners, Contact Loita Colebank at: loitajc@gmail.com.

~ Gayle Clarity, District 8 reporter

District 9 (Burns - John Day Area)

Chair: Don Greenfield, 541-589-4409, greenfield.at.aurora@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Joan Suther, 541-573-5601, jsuther10@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer/Membership: George Sahlberg

Reporter: Marianne Andrews, marianneandrews@gmail.com

Remember that to discover the place the Friday Jams are held, call one of the officers, or get an e-mail from Don Greenfield. We always welcome newcomers, card players, clappers and especially the regular and extraordinary musicians.

Nine musicians graced our November potluck and jam. Ronda Metler joined us from John Day playing her ukulele and singing, while her husband Carl played his computer. Some new listeners have moved to Burns from the burn in John Day--Judith and Bob Reed. We hear that she is a good clogger, so perhaps we'll hear and see her someday. If you ate a piece of her apple pie, you'd also know she's a great cook!

December brings our annual holiday season potluck, with District 9 providing the turkey, dressing, potatoes and gravy, and fresh

District 10 (Roseburg, Canyonville, Sutherlin Area)

Chair: Colleen Hanks, 541-733-5381, crhanksba@aol.com

Vice-Chair: Jude Stensland, 541-430-2080, jude999s@gmail.com

Secretary: Kelly Wadsworth, (541) 643-7113, queenkellybee@gmail.com

Treasurer: Gynn Deaton, 541-839-4501, gynnnde@charter.net

Membership: Mary Oswald, 541-637-5283, mdoswald41@yahoo.com (Joyce Kuether - backup)

Program Coordinator: Jude Stensland, 541-430-2080, jude999s@gmail.com (Sharon Thompson - backup)

Kitchen Mgr: Sandy Harter, 541-340-3430, sandharter@gmail.com

Sound Person: Jim Kuether, 503-260-5972, (Gene Hodson - alt)

Reporter/Publicist: Joe Ross, 541-670-9120 or 541-673-9759, rossjoe@hotmail.com

Our October jam was very well attended with many players and listeners, but the birthday cake went "plop" right onto the floor and had to be thrown away. November birthdays were left out of The Hoedowner last month, so let's again extend our love, wishes, hugs and gifts to Jon Tilley, Ron Bishop, Kathe Bishop, Fred Young (who turned 90) and Jim Kuether. In December, we celebrate birthdays of Clarence "Whitey" Kelm (Dec 7), Dan Pohl (Dec 10), and Karen Pohl (Dec 31). Kelly and Scott Wadsworth's 39th Anniversary occurs on Dec 14. Congratulations to all!

This month's featured district member is Fred Young, born in 1927 and raised on a ranch in Lakeview. One of seven generations from Oregon, he had four brothers and a sister. Lauren Young is his kid brother. They walked a mile to the school bus, and then rode 23 miles to school. Fred was drafted into the service, got out in 1947, lived in Lakeview from 1947-52, then moved to Myrtle Creek to help his brother in a trucking business. After hauling logs for 20 years, Fred had a service station for 15. He retired in 1990. He has three kids by his first wife.

Fred's music started in 4th grade and he says, "We all had to have a Marine band harmonica in the key of C. I played guitar for about 30 years until I hit my left hand with a chainsaw and cut it right down to the palm. I couldn't reach across the neck so I went to the fiddle. I started about 1985 and played until I had my third heart attack that froze my left shoulder. I couldn't raise my elbow up to hold the fiddle so I built a mechanism to raise it. I started singing in school and sang a lot while in the truck hauling. I wrote 'One of Those Better Days' and 'There is No Turning Back.' I've been alone for six years, am totally retired and have nothing else

December Events

1	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
8	gig	The Aspens	7-9 p.m.
15	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
18	gig	Ashley Manor	6-7 p.m.
22	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
29	jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.

cranberry sauce. Please bring your favorite side dishes and desserts.

Our hearts are heavy as we tell you that George's wife Pearl Sahlberg, Janet's dad Allan Brayman and Janet Yekel passed away since our last report. We will sorely miss them and the support they have given District 9's music life. Keep their families in your thoughts and prayers. Pearl and Janet sat at the registration table at the Country Music Jamboree, and Alan enjoyed visiting with any and all that came.

We send Donna Townsend our well wishes.

Musically Yours

~ Marianne Andrews, District 9 Reporter

December Events

7	gig	Oak Park	1-2 p.m.
13	gig	Rosehaven	10-11 a.m.
18	gig	Callahan Village	3:30-4:30 p.m.
23	jam	Sutherlin Grange Hall (no business meeting; finger foods only)	12-3 p.m.
30	gig	Brookdale	2:30-3:30 p.m.

to do so I enjoy performing with the old-time fiddlers. My whole family had very good memories, good health and that helps me remember words."

Lessons for fiddle students are now available by contacting Kelly Wadsworth. Jude Stensland has a new bass and is learning it at a fast pace. Please get 2018 dues to Mary Oswald soon. If you can't pay them at the jam, please contact her to make other plans. Dues are still \$20 if you want The Hoedowner emailed as a PDF file, or \$25 to get The Hoedowner via US Post.

Let's pick!

~ Joe Ross, District 10 Reporter



Fred Young, District 10



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Membership Chair

Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association
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We're on the web:



www.OregonOldtimeFiddling.org



www.ootfa.org

State Calendar

January 20	State Gathering, Jam, and Board Meeting	Lebanon Senior Center
District 6 is hosting this gathering and State Board Meeting. The doors will open at 8 a.m. with jamming until noon when the potluck will be held. The State Board Meeting is at 10 a.m. From 1-3:30 p.m., there will be a sign-up jam, and this portion is open to the public. Members who would like to come on Friday night can dry camp in the parking lot beginning at 5 p.m., and jamming will take place until 9 p.m. The center is located 10 miles from the I-5 Corvallis/Lebanon Exit--at 80 Tangent St. in Lebanon.		
March 17	State Fiddle Contest	Chemeteka Community College 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
April 4-7	State Convention, Membership Meeting	Polk Co. Fairgrounds, Rickreall

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CHAIR INFORMATION

2018 OOTFA HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP: \$25 for Hoedowner Mailed; \$20 for Hoedowner in PDF.
Find your DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP CHAIR and send/give them your 2018 OOTFA Registration money!!!!

DIST	FIRST	LAST	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP	PHONE	EMAIL
1	Edna	Jenkins	PO Box 949	Chiloquin	OR	97624	541-891-9155	ednaspics@yahoo.com
1-E	Sharilyn	McLain	PO Box 603	Lakeview	OR	97630	541-219-0896	grammaleggs@hotmail.com
3	Teri	Tucker	2835 S Adams	Madras	OR	97741	503-930-6775	tjtucker0605@outlook.com
4	Carol	Ferrera	2716 Montara	Medford	OR	97504	541-499-0011	lencarol2000@gmail.com
4	Jessie	Lotts	921 1/2 Maple Park Dr	Medford	OR	97501	541-816-1954	jessielotts22@gmail.com
5	Dawn	Vonderlin	56507 Prosper Junction Rd	Bandon	OR	97411	541-347-4561	dawndoreen@hotmail.com
6	Linda	Parks	36989 Deadwood Dr	Lebanon	OR	97355	541-905-2313	lindaparks1980@gmail.com
7	Marcella	Easily	15568 SE Cobalt Lp	Damascus	OR	97089	503-855-3535	marlueasily@gmail.com
8	Donna	Janszen	1445 25th St NE	Salem	OR	97301	503-585-3033	dandjj@msn.com
9	George	Sahlberg	788 N Buena Vista	Burns	OR	97720	541-573-6517	
10	Mary	Oswald	1554 NW Evans Ave	Roseburg	OR	97471	541-637-5283	mdoswald41@yahoo.com
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