

# THE OREGON • OLD TIME • FIDDLERS' HOEDOWNER

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www.ootfa.org

February 2018



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## From Your President

Well, I knew it was bound to happen! I've been keeping an eye out while traveling around different districts observing how they conduct themselves, especially while they are doing a monthly jam or volunteering their time playing for shut-ins. For some reason, they all seem to be enjoying what they're doing. Can you imagine that?? Some drive ridiculous distances to get to the performance, pay dues and give to the tip jars, provide delicious food, and drive hundreds of miles just to attend state meetings. What is wrong with this picture? Actually, there is nothing wrong with said picture. When someone is having a good time doing what they love to do, it's no sacrifice at all!

I'm convinced this Oregon organization is one of the most caring, fulfilling, and best old time fiddling groups around. One of the reasons is that its members care about each other and the organization they belong to. They show up to monthly meetings even if sometimes not the most exciting because they know it takes many willing hands to tackle the challenges that present themselves. And they attend quarterly state meetings to support and help manage the organization for the good of all. But if it weren't for the fact that we can enjoy the privilege of playing our kind of music and help other players along the way, we probably wouldn't be here. Just remember when we come together to play or attend a meeting to be cordial, uplifting, and friendly. After all, we are all volunteers, and we or they don't have to be here!

Oh, and by the way, just to put a plug in, the Oregon State Fiddle Contest is coming up on March 17. It would be great if those of you who may not play an instrument would come anyway to support those who spend many an hour practicing for this event. They always appreciate a full audience to cheer them on. I know I did. Not only do they like the support, you hear a lot of great fiddling!

Until next time, enjoy the ride! ~Jim

## NEW MEMBERS FOR FEBRUARY 2018

John and Diana Aldridge	Jacksonville	Barbara, Tim and Mark Jenkins	Creswell
Kim Collar	Albany	Dawn Maupin	Merrill
Christine Cormack	Roseburg	Erin, Steve, Mia, Ali and Sammie Miller	Prineville
Rita Derrick	Happy Valley	Michael and Peggy Schneider	Eugene
Laura Dorius	Roseburg	Dianna Taylor	Klamath Falls
John Ezell	Eugene	Rick Winter	Tigard
Betsy Janeczek	Eugene		

## From the Editor :

I just returned from the OOTFA gathering in Lebanon. It was our first event at the senior center there, and it turned out to be a perfect venue for our group. The local people came out to listen, and many stayed all day. There were some cozy jams going on in the back rooms, and some great on-stage performances. Thanks to Jerry and Linda Parks as well as Ken and Patti Luse of District 6 for leading the way on this one. It was inspiring to play music with friends from around the state.

~ Karen



OOTFA Board, January, 2018



## Strings Swap

Chris Sytsma (District 6) has a number of antique and vintage violins and bows for sale. Violins are mostly Strads, a few Amati, Guarnerius. 541-517-0800.

## From the Editor Emeritus

When Alice and I first joined the old time fiddlers about 1980, we were in awe of the music and of the fiddlers. One fiddler, Bill Yohey, was held in great respect by the members – both for his fiddling and early leadership. He was one of the charter members back in 1966. One summer in the middle 80s, Alice acquired another fiddle. She took it to the campout at Vernonia and showed Bill her new fiddle. Bill took it, looked it over, and I remember clearly him saying, “You never tell a lady that she has an ugly baby.” This was his way of saying that you never tell a lady that she has an ugly fiddle. To this day I respect what he told Alice and have personally tried to live by it – both dealing with fiddles and with people.

Bill lived in McMinnville. One time– a year before we moved from North Bend to the valley, we went to see Bill, knowing that he was ill. His wife greeted us at the door. We told her that we had come to see Bill. She told us that it wouldn’t be possible because of his condition but that she was lonely and would like for us to visit with her. Bill died shortly after our visit.

### Bill Yohey McMinnville, Oregon

*“My contribution to the Hoedowner this month is my autobiography. I was born at Mount Clair, Nebraska, Dec. 6, 1919, to George and Lilly Yohey, a fiddling bricklayer and one of the better piano players of that day. If I become something in the musical world, I owe it to my talented mother’s teachings.*

*My first paying job was in Casper, Wyoming, playing banjo at the Country Club Golf Course. Square dancing was again becoming popular and my job was accompanying a local fiddler and his wife on piano. This job lasted longer than expected, and the following week I found employment in a restaurant and lounge singing and playing rhythm guitar with a western group. After observing the patrons quickly eat and finish their cocktails, the management asked me to refrain from singing and just play the guitar.*

*About this time, war clouds were gathering in the Far East, and the government asked me to join other friends who were leaving with the Wyoming National Guard. We arrived in Fort Lewis, Washington on February 14, 1941. December 8, 1942 found my regiment, the 115 Mech. Cavalry, at Corvallis, Oregon. T’was there I met my wife while she was attending Oregon State College. She followed me to several outposts throughout the Northwest, and I finally consented to marry this lady September 18, 1942, at the chapel in Fort Lewis, Washington. Louisiana, California, Oregon, Washington, Maryland, and Kentucky saw our 1938 Chevy coupe with the essentials of a traveling soldier and a pretty wife. I was sent overseas in July 1945 to Tacloban, Leyte, and later to Fusan and Seoul, Korea. Greeting me on my return six months later was Edna and our first born. . . a son, Patrick. Later came a daughter, Jeannie.*

*Discharged in 1946, I returned to McMinnville and went to work at the only trade I know. . . bricklaying. Of course my hobby is music. I’ve strived to learn something of the business and so become a better musician every day. Many facets of entertainment have entered in the mainstream of my playing career. On stage I’ve followed several dog acts, junior baton twirlers, rock and roll bands, wrestling and dancing bears, pantomime acts, choirs and champion banjo and fiddle players. I’ve played my instruments at super market openings, fairs, rodeos, banquets, funerals, weddings, various clubs and cocktail lounges, open air dance halls, granges, barn dances, volunteer Fire Departments, and others I’d like to forget! My favorite instruments are the tenor guitar, banjo, mandolin, and fiddle. I have made the stereo album called “Twenty Country Strings.”*

*I asked Edna how one ends an autobiography and she says just quit. . . so I will. See you at the next jam session and show.”*

~ Lew



Bill Yohey

## District 1 (Klamath Falls Area)

**Chairman:** Ben Coker, 541-783-3478, benfcoker@gmail.com  
**Vice-Chair:** Irene Ruddock, 541-882-6418, irenelcmar@q.com  
**Secretary:** Edna Jenkins, 541-891-9155, ednaspics@yahoo.com  
**Treasurer/Membership:** Edna Jenkins, 541-891-9155  
**Correspondence/Historian:** Karen Ayers, 541-783-2970  
**Reporter:** Jenny Dreyer, 541-205-6397  
**Scheduler:** Irene Ruddock, 541-882-6418/Ben Coker, 541-783-3478

### February Events

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

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

Greetings All from District One,

Here in District One, we have been busy with all of our normal gigs, our nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Playing for those folks brings us joy! Also bringing joy are our Junior

Fiddlers. Our Junior Fiddlers had an amazing 2nd Annual Christmas Party and Recital for parents, family, friends and district members. Each of the kids, at various times throughout the program, had an opportunity to stand up and individually play a solo while the other Junior Fiddlers backed them up. The

## District 1 (continued from page 2)

program consisted of about 20 songs total, with some songs being Christmas carols that the audience got to sing along with. The recital was attended by 50-60 people who not only enjoyed the fine music being played by our up and coming musicians but also enjoyed Abby's Legendary Pizza. ☺

Many thanks go out to the District One members who voted to fund and support the food provided at the recital. Thank you for supporting our young members; they are our future! Also just a quick note to say thank you very much to those of you District One members who came and supported the Mercedes Rasdal/Moore family fundraiser held at Starbucks! I personally want to thank the musicians for donating your time and talents (Mr. Steve, Ms. Faye, Ms. Sheila, and Lena). Your performance was A-mazing! I thank those of you members (you know who you are!) who donated generously to the cause, and I also thank those District One members who came to Starbucks to listen to the music and support us for the 3 hours we played there (i.e. Bonsers, Mr. Merv,

Marie Kliewer). Also noteworthy was the Mia and Pia's Jam. This is held here in Klamath Falls at the restaurant each month. It was nice to see the McLain's there ("Double Trouble") as well as Mike Foster, Dean Oliver, Jon Blasius, Ms. Faye Patterson, Ms. Sheila Fry, Joyce Furlong, Fran Coker, and a few others who were new to me and I did not catch their names! It was a nice bunch, and with a birthday party happening at the same time, there were many listeners as well. I hope this February finds you well, and best wishes for a happy spring (which is just around the corner now!). ☺

District One elections of new officers will be held at the March meeting. Please attend and cast your vote!

February Birthdays: Ben Coker, Lynn Foster, Del Sparks

Let me know if I missed anyone!

~ Jenny Dreyer, District 1 Reporter

## 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

We have had nothing but sunshine and a few drops of rain since I last wrote. It seems this year we are in for a very low snow pack even though in the last issue I referred to "snow and ice" in our part of the world. We had those conditions but once I set them down on paper, they disappeared. I'm hoping my prognostication this month results in the kind of ju ju needed to dump 3 feet of the white stuff all over this county and set us up for a nice spring runoff, but I won't hold my breath.

Along with the sunshine, we also experienced a wonderful First Saturday Jam with our bass player, Mike Borelli, and another member of our local community joining the McLain's and I. Larry McLain has been bringing some original new tunes to our jams and each time we meet, it seems his chord progressions and melodies just get better and better. We reassembled at the Elks Club that night to attend a fundraiser for a family in town whose house burned to the ground just prior to Christmas. The place was jam-packed and loaded with talented musicians from our community. There is so much good musicianship scattered about the Oregon Outback!

Hard to believe that it is time to start planning for our Silver Lake Campout but by the time members receive this publication we'll be only 3 months away from the event. Here are the pertinent details for Silver Lake, 2018. The only thing we don't have a fix on yet is the weather!

### February Events

3	First Saturday Jam	Chamber of Commerce	2 p.m.
8, 15, 22	Thursday night jams	Rosa Lee's House	5 p.m.

### Silver Lake Campout - May 3-6

- **Thursday** Time to jam your brains out!
- **Friday Night** Hat Contest (Theme yet to be determined)
- **Saturday Night** Can Band
- And yes, it is possible to join **The Teddy Bear Club** again this year for anyone who wants to pull an all-nighter.

### Advance Preparations:

- Be sure to **fill your gas tank** before heading out to Silver Lake. Nearest gas is 100-120 miles away.
- Be sure to **fill your RV fresh water tank** before arriving.
- Be sure to **fill your propane tank** before arriving at Silver Lake.

There is limited access to electricity at the firehouse and a charge of \$10 per/day is levied for RV electrical use. Dry camping is free. Other options for RV's include the Silver Lake Trailer Park with hookups and the K&K RV Park, also with hookups. RV accommodations are also available at Christmas Valley and Summer Lake. Use Google to discover more accommodation information that I've presented here.

The Silver Lake Motel, within easy walking distance, has a few rooms (541-576-2131). More details to follow in subsequent issues.

We are looking forward to the gatherings and jams this year and the opportunity to make music and learn new tunes from those we don't regularly see at our local jams.

~ Nancy Yialouris, District 1E Reporter

## 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

### February Events

11	2nd Sunday Jam/Dance	Powell Butte CC	1 - 3 p.m.
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We are looking for young musicians to be featured in the Hoedowner. If you know of a young person, regardless of the instrument or level of play, we would certainly like to contact the family to see if they would like to be featured.

Elections for officers will be coming up sooner than we think. According to the OOTFA by-laws, our Chairman and Co-Chair are not eligible for another term. Of course all positions are up for elections. District 3

Howdy from District 3. It has been foggy, cold and wet here on the high desert in Central Oregon so far this winter.

## District 3 Continued from page 3

needs members to step up and help in serving as our officers. You do not have to be a musician to be eligible for a District office, only be a OOTFA member for 6 months. We do have many talented and good people in our district. Please consider serving as one of our officers.

Our 2nd Sunday Jam/Dance was held on Jan 14th. In the interest of getting our article into the Hoedowner on time, we will tell you all about the event in the next issue along with the February Jam/Dance. We were contacted by Touchmark in Bend that they will be bringing a group of about 15 residents to the January event!

## District 4 (Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland Area)

**Chairman:** Gene Grant, 541-621-5247, savagesheik@gmail.com.  
**Co-Chair:** Scotty Phillips, 541-601-5753, scott307@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!

A cheerful welcome to February from Southern Oregon. Not only because it's the "Love" month but mainly because if we stand tall (and for a few of us that's a problem) we can almost see spring! Winter has taken a toll on quite a few of District 4's members-- bringing the flu and some viral colds. We've missed all those who have been ill and hope you're back with us soon. Our January jam was a little short of musicians, but the 15 who made it had a lot of fun, and the audience of 50 or more really enjoyed it and stayed to the closing tune. Beginning fiddle lessons are over three fourths complete, and the students are beginning to play very well together. They have worked hard, attended faithfully, mastered several tunes, and they're still working on several more.

Jim and Dottie are settled in their new home at Waterford and are looking forward to seeing you stop by. Jim, at 101 years, still performs

## 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:** Kriss Fenton, krissfenton2@gmail.com 541-260-6756

The decorations have been packed away, the confetti swept up, and the New Year started in District 5 with a terrific January 1st gathering at Verna Lee's home! Nineteen members attended for



Verna's New Year's Celebration

It is not too early to mention our 4th Annual Central Oregon Country Music Gathering. It will be held this year September 6-8 at the Crook County Fairgrounds. Prineville is expecting and preparing for a very busy construction season due to Facebook building their new facilities. So, please start thinking about getting hotel and camp reservations in as soon as possible. We want to see you all here!

Stay warm and safe, and play lots of music with friends !!

**Kim Martin and Pat Borden District 3 Reporters**

### February Events

3 meeting, jam and potluck Applegate firehouse lunch at noon

with the group at the monthly gig and also at the Three Fountains gig. Our new gig in Ashland, at the memory care center, went very well. The quality of our performance and the response from the residents to our tunes was, as the facility director commented, beyond her expectations. It was a joy for the musicians to be able to bring joy to their day. This will be a monthly gig. We also have a new gig next month at Avemere in Medford on March 9 at 2 p.m. Judy McGarvey is the coordinator.

The State Fiddle Contest is in Salem on March 17 and is a wonderful opportunity to show off your fiddling skills as a contestant or just to go and listen to a daylong celebration of old time music--from the tiny tots to the seniors. Our February jam is on February 3 at the Applegate firehouse and will be a potluck at noon along with the usual jam. The ham, drinks and table service are provided by the district. If you haven't already been contacted about a side dish or dessert to bring, call Judy Lyons at 541-956-0618. Our March jam and meeting will be on March 3 at the Community Center in Ashland. Y'all come and enjoy some wonderful food, fellowship and music.

See you soon,

~ Judy Lyons, District 4 Reporter

### February Events

7 gig Myrtle Point Care Center 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
14 gig Bay Crest Village 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.  
14 gig Evergreen Court 3 - 4 p.m.  
17 meeting, on-stage show, jam Winchester Bay Community Center meeting 11 a.m., on-stage 1 - 3 p.m. Possible jam to follow!  
21 gig Pacific View 2 - 3 p.m.  
28 gig Avamere 1 - 2 p.m. and \*NEW\* Inland Point 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

potluck and music fellowship. Verna would like to say thank you to all who were able to share the day together. A special shout-out goes to Silvia Ernst and Bob Morrow who also came to have fun and play their songs with the group. Thank you to Sandy Bowman and Dana Sweatt who photographed these talented musicians, I think they all look happy, well fed, and ready to tackle 2018!

District 5 would like to thank Hal and Sharon for hosting their sweet holiday party. It is always a fun and happy event when districts share with one another.

This month our stage show on February 17 in Winchester Bay will be prefaced by the District 5 meeting at 11 a.m. Dawn would like to remind everyone the election of officers is coming up soon, so please try to attend. We will need lots of finger foods to go with this very important meeting. With all the potlucks that have been going on with the holidays I bet we are all practiced up for food! Did I mention we will need a goodly amount of cookies and baked

# JR HOEDOWNER

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## Oregon State Fiddle Contest--March 17 Chemeketa Community College in Salem



Fiddle contests have been a folk tradition in many countries for more than 300 years and provide an opportunity for fiddlers, other musicians, and audiences to gather and enjoy a show for each other and for the public, and to perpetuate fiddling and fiddle tunes. Many a fiddler has been inspired and motivated to practice new tunes after attending a contest. Many people form lifelong friendships at these events.

If you need any convincing about attending the upcoming contest (March 17 in Salem), contact me – maybe I can talk you into it! If you're thinking about competing (just remember –it's just a show – think of it as a jam) and you're not sure you know the "right tunes", you may be surprised. Even if you have a small repertoire of tunes, you most likely know a hoedown, a waltz, and a tune that's not a hoedown or waltz (such as a jig, rag, polka, swing tune, schottische, clog, fox trot, 2-step, etc.) Here are a few common tunes in these categories (of course there are thousands of possibilities):

### Hoedowns:

Angeline the Baker	Arkansas Traveler	Soldier's Joy	Old Joe Clark	Mississippi Sawyer
Devil's Dream	Turkey in the Straw	Fisher's Hornpipe	Whiskey before Breakfast	
Boil the Cabbage	Cripple Creek	Leather Britches	Bill Cheatum	

### Waltzes:

Kentucky	Tennessee	Endearing Young Charms	Where the White Lilies Grow	
Look Pik	Westphalia	Ashokan Farewell	Waltz across Texas	Cowboy
Edelweiss	Over the Waves	Southwind	Amelia's	Streets of Laredo

### Choice Tunes:

Redwing	Sweet Marie	Rubber Dolly	Pig Ankle Rag	Stone's Rag	
Kansas City Kitty	Swallowtail Jig	Red Apple Rag	East Tennessee Blues	Florida Blues	Snow Deer
Just Because	You Are My Sunshine	Heel and Toe Polka	Maggie	Five Foot Two	

If you'd like to discuss more tune suggestions with me, or you have any questions about anything, please don't hesitate to contact me – I'd love to talk to you. You can also register by contacting me. And I'm still looking for more volunteers. The contest is only a few weeks away. I'm looking forward to it and I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

~Eileen [gdaewalt@comcast.net](mailto:gdaewalt@comcast.net) 503-701-1578 call or text



Judy McGarvey, teacher, and her beginning fiddle class at District 4 in Medford



Kennadi Johnston jamming with District 8

## Tune of the Month-- "Farewell Trion" Editor's Choice

I love this tune, and it's one of the few fiddle tunes I know in C. If you learn it, let me know. I'd love to play it with you sometime.

"Farewell Trion" is an old time tune from Alabama. The source for the tune is a fiddler from Mentone, Alabama named Mack Blalock (1914-1987) who got it from his uncle Joe Blaylock. Joe Blaylock (born 1854) who composed it upon returning to Alabama after getting laid off from a cotton mill that closed down for a time in Trion, Georgia. James Bryan added a third part to the tune. He plays it on You Tube. Just search for "Farewell Trion", and a few different recordings pop up. They're all great.



Editor Karen learning a tune from Willie Carter in 2015

~Karen



District One Junior Fiddler's Christmas Party and Recital. Thanks Junior Fiddlers for another great year!



District One members play for the Mercedes Rasdal/Moore Family Fundraiser held at Starbucks in Klamath Falls

## District 5 (Continued from page 4)

tidbits to share with our Windy Bay friends? Please bring what you can and many grateful thanks to each of you for all you contribute.

\*NEW\* We have been able to get on the Activity Calendar for Inland Point in North Bend. This is a wonderful assisted living community with great leaders in place. It will be a pleasure to share our music with these very active seniors. I anticipate dancing.

February is a time for reflecting on love and romance. Have you made plans for your special valentines? I know some, including myself, have tender places in their hearts for an amazing love

## 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

The expression, "pennies from heaven", is more than an idle idiom. Sasha Chernoff, a District 6 member and fiddler since 2011, is looking over us. At our Quarterly Business Meeting on January 13, Darla Knudsen had the singular honor of presenting to District 6 a bequest of \$18,665.31. Sasha's legacy is designated specifically for helping people to learn and improve on their instruments. In talking with her dearest friend, Lydia Lord, a musician and the executor of her estate, she recalled that Sasha and friend, Melinda Tims, attended fiddle camps at Westfir, and enjoyed a grand experience. As a result, Sasha began to craft a plan to perpetuate opportunities for others.

My first personal encounter with Sasha was at a summer music camp hosted at the Shedd Institute and instructed by Jenny Humphrey. I think that Sasha and I were the only two adults (and the only two not engaging in sword fights with our bows). We shared many a twinkling eye and raised eyebrow that week.

Sasha's generous spirit, and her determination to learn and improve, shine through her gift and offer a reminder to the rest of us that we might consider OOTFA, District 6, scholarships or West Cascades Fiddle Camp and Workshops as we consider our own estate plans. Instruments would also be welcome legacies.

Tony Humphrey and Wayne Carter join Doug Wise and Darla on the district's Scholarship Committee, as Darla looks for ways to streamline her schedule and channel her energy.

Thanks to all of you who have responded to reminders to renew your memberships for 2018. Great rally, folks! Our new members are jumping in with both feet, attending jams and classes to learn the repertoire.

Fiddle camp registration is officially open, and this year's

that has passed on before us. Some have a new love, some have love they've been holding close for many years. Wherever your heart has led you, may it always take great care to recognize the wonderful little things a person does for you and see the little things you do for them in return. I believe this is what makes truly great relationships. This also creates truly beautiful love songs. I like the old ones. So how many sentimental love songs can you play for your music gigs this month? There are plenty to choose from! Happy Valentines Day to everyone!

~ Kriss Fenton, District 5 Reporter

### February Events

1	OOTFA jam	Old World Deli, Corvallis	7 - 9-ish
2	OOTFA Jam	Eugene Hotel	7 - 8:30 p.m.
3	Intermediate Fiddle Class	River Rd. Annex	1 - 3 p.m. or so
5	Basic Fiddle Class	Bethesda Lutheran	1 - 4 p.m.
9	jam	Elmira Grange	7 - 9:30 p.m.
10	jam	Central Grange	12 - 3 p.m. (doors open at 11 a.m.)
16	jam	YaPoAh Terrace	7 - 9 p.m.
17	Celebration of Mark Carmickle, followed by lunch and jam		
17,18	Frontier Heritage Fair	Lane Count Events Center	9 - 4 p.m.
23	OOTFA jam	Willakenzie Grange	7 - 9 p.m.

brochures will be available on March 17, at the State Contest at Chemeketa Community College in Salem. Evelyn Horner gave an impassioned plea for a great turnout at this, and other, contest events. Contest fiddling has been an elemental part of old time fiddling since the late 1700's and is part of its cultural history. She and others testify that the contest experience is valuable and that it's worth it to invest time and effort practicing to a polished performance level tunes that can be presented at contests. Deliberate, intentional daily practice helps us improve. Jerry Parks shared that he thinks of himself not as a contestant, but as a participant, and Evelyn reminds us that contests are one more way to promote our music and organization and have fun, to boot. Talk to Evelyn, Jerry and others about how best to prepare. You can invite your own back-up musicians or draw from the very talented pool that is available.

A Celebration of Life will be held for Mark Carmickle on Saturday, February 17th, at the Local 290 Union Training Hall, 2861 Pierce Parkway, Springfield, OR. Service at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and acoustic music jam. This will not be a potluck.

Directions to the Local 290 Training Hall: from I-5 take 105 east to Mohawk exit. Turn left over bridge to Marcola Road at the light, then right on Marcola Rd to 28th. Left on 28th one block to Pierce Parkway. Hall is on your right. Bring your instruments!

### Honoraria:

Kathy Ness, Gary Baran, Tony Humphreys, Phyllis Coffin, Dave Stubbs and Val Adams are celebrating birthdays. Best wishes!

~ Amy Burrow, District 6 Reporter



Mark Carmickle, Lifetime Member, National Treasurer and former State President for Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association, died on December 26 at the age of 94. Mark was strong, kind and generous. He was a loving husband of our fiddler extraordinaire, Ila Mae Carmickle. Mark was a member of District 6 for over 30 years and was state President from 1988-1990. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, February 17. The Celebration will begin at 11 a.m. with a lunch and acoustic jam in the afternoon. This will all be held at the Plumbers and Pipe-Fitters Hall at 2861 Pierce Parkway in Springfield (which is off 28th near Marcola Road). If you wish to send your thoughts to the family, mail them to Ila Mae Carmickle at 3055 Wolf Meadow, Eugene, OR 97408. He will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ila Mae and family.

## 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 February! District 7 members have some great events this month starting with the annual Sweetheart Banquet at the Eagle Creek Grange in honor of Valentine's Day. The fiddlers will be served a delicious banquet on a festive table covered with decorations and lots of little candy hearts in the beautiful grange hall in Eagle Creek (if the dinner is anything like the last few years). After we eat, we get to perform on the stage to a very cheerful and playful crowd. It is fun to pull out all the stops and give these folks a great foot stomping concert. If you have never come to this event, you will love playing in this historic building.

Wednesday, Feb. 14, is Oregon's birthday, and District 7 members will once again play at the Oregon Historical Society's celebration for our state. We will be performing from 11:30 - 1 p.m. There will be speeches from past governors and current counsel members, and

## 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

Our district meeting and jam on February 24 will be at Deer Creek Meadows Clubhouse in Aurora. **A meeting full of items to consider will start at 11 a.m. Please make us able to function by showing up for this. We desperately need someone to take over the scheduling and treasurer positions so that Lew can enjoy doing other things.**  
**Directions to the Deer Creek clubhouse:** From I5, take exit 278 [Aurora/Donald]. Go east 2.6 mi, turn left onto Boones Ferry. Entrance is on west side opposite Keil Rd. Go straight in on Wisteria. Three streets in on the right. Some parking in front, with more on the street. Deer Creek Meadows now has their newsletter up and running so we'll be able to notify the park residents in a more thorough manner.

February 24 will be a challenging day as we are also scheduled to play at the Newberg Masonic Lodge. We'll need to dash over to Newberg after we play at Aurora, for their annual chicken and dumpling event that runs from 4 - 8:30 which includes our dinner time as well. This has been an event of long standing. **Directions to the Masonic Lodge in Newberg:** Coming from the east going towards McMinnville, The block after the third light is Blaine with RR tracks going through it. Turn right to the north. The lodge is one block on the right -- the corner of Blaine and Sheridan. Coming from McMinnville, turn left going north on Blaine. Extra parking on corner of Hancock and Sheridan. One dinner of chicken & dumplings is usually provided per musician. Benefits go to ALS disease. We've played there for several years. It's always a good crowd of old time music lovers and players. And the chicken & dumplings are good!

We are sorry about the tight scheduling but it couldn't be avoided. Sooo..please think hard about how you might support this day of music --do both, or one or the other. We'd LOVE to have our scholarship students at one of these, especially Deer Creek as a donation is being

### February Events

- 12 gig Eagle Creek Grange, 24491 Eagle Creek Road Banquet at 5:30 p.m. and playing from 6 - 7:30 p.m.
- 14 gig Oregon Historical Society, 1200 SW Park Ave in Portland 11:30 - 1 p.m.
- 25 NW Jam 600 NE 8th Gresham Doors open at 11 and sign-up playing 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- 28 gig Gladstone Christian Church, 305 E Dartmouth St. in Gladstone 11 a.m. - noon

afterwards, delicious cakes will be served for all the people who attend.

The last two events in February are familiar ones. We have played at the NW Jam at the senior center in Gresham many times, and it is a great way to get experience in front of a microphone and to learn new music from other performers. We played at Gladstone Christian Church two years ago for folks at their noon meal and had a good crowd. This is another good way to play with a group of OOTFA musicians and to get some solo practice, too.

We have a new member this month. His name is Rick Winter and he plays the violin, bass, guitar and other instruments and lives in Tigard. Welcome to OOTFA, Rick. Keep on fiddling everyone.

~ Elaine Schmidt, District 7 Reporter

### February Events

- 2 gig Marion Estates, 590 Conifer Circle, Sublimity 5 - 6 p.m.
  - 17 jam Oregon State Capitol Building perform for 30 minutes at 10 a.m. and 30 mins again at 11 a.m.
  - 24 meeting, jam Deer Creek Estates Clubhouse, 12821 Wisteria in Aurora brown bag lunch, meeting 11 a.m., jam 1 - 3 p.m.
  - 24 gig Newberg Masonic Lodge, 402 East Sheridan 4 p.m.
- The jam at the Capitol Building Saturday, **February 17** is to celebrate Oregon's 159th birthday

held for our youth program there. In reading the Hoedowner, we see that our district has the least amount of scheduled performances each month within the state. That's mostly due to a shortage of musicians, so with the holidays over, perhaps we can manage to get together to support these events. Thanks so much, gang, for all your hard work.

At our American Legion jam in McMinnville January 13th, we were pleased to have two new young fiddlers at our jam. We were pleased to welcome Kwynn and Kannadi Johnston from Dayton. We certainly enjoyed their fiddle tunes.

Marie Cunningham passed away December 27 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Both Marie and her husband Ray have been long time supporters and musicians with the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers in District 8. We'll miss Marie very much.

Arlie Holt, Lew Holt's brother, passed away December 25th. Our condolences go out to the Holt family.

We miss Les and Peggy Tucker, but are glad to know that they are happy living in Idaho near their daughter. I'm sure Les has probably found people to play music with by now.

~ Gayle Clarity, District 8 reporter



Chuck Stayer playing his homemade "chuck bucket" bass at District 10's December jam

## District 9 (Burns - John Day Area)

**Chair:** Randy Gibson, 541-589-1866, outlawwoodproducts@yahoo.com

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

**Secretary/Treasurer/Membership:** George Sahlberg

**Reporter:** Marianne Andrews

Our recent Sunday Potluck and Jam was delightful, with musicians Ronda and Ron from John Day and Nancy Yialouris from Lakeview, which makes Burns a "hub" instead of being "in the middle of nowhere". We also had new listeners: Mel and Liz Dixon, their son D.J. and his friend Jake Needham. With eleven musicians, and special instruments like hammered dulcimer, banjo, ukulele, dobro, mandolin along with our fiddles and guitars and lovely voices, we really had some good tunes and a full sound.

As you may note, we had our quarterly OOTFA meeting and among other things, we elected officers. Thanks so much to Don Greenfield for his service as Chair these last couple of years. Thanks to Randy Gibson for allowing us to railroad, I mean, vote him into the office of Chair. The

## 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, 541-673-9759, rossjoe@hotmail.com

About 35 attended our fourth Saturday jam on December 23. It was a nice crowd on a beautiful day, and we played a lot of wonderful old time music interspersed with holiday tunes and Christmas carols. A reporter and a photographer from The Roseburg News-Review were there and did an excellent front page article about OOTFA in their December 26 edition. We've been busy with jams, gigs and parties. We were requested to do an "up-tempo" early New Year's Eve show on December 30 at Brookdale, and several said it was one our most lively and best ever performance.

In February, we celebrate Dona Brown's birthday on the 13th. We hope to see more of Dona and our former chairperson, Jerry Hash. We miss everyone who hasn't come for awhile. Please try to come out and join us.

February's featured member is Bernice Orr who spent her early years in the backwoods of Kentucky. Her father was a Southern Railroad

man and owned several acres. Her Irish mom sounded like Loretta Lynn when she sang. They lived in a two story house with six kids and no electricity, five miles from the main road where Red Miller had his country store. The kids walked that five miles to catch the school bus. Altogether it took two hours to get to school. One time, Mom walked the five miles to that corner store and spent a whole 25 cents on a harmonica for the kids to play. She let them know that harp was very "special" and to take care of it. Bernice always loved country music. She and her brothers



Bernice Orr on harmonica backed up by President Jim (District 10)

### February Events

2 jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
9 gig	The Aspens	7 - 9 p.m.
16 jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.
19 gig	Ashley Manor	6 - 7 p.m.
23 jam	Friday Jam	7 p.m.

other officers remain, so: Randy is Chair, Joan is VC, Marianne is the newsy, George is everything else, and Janet is the glue.

George is still recovering from his knee bout and sadly also his dog pined away without him. Also recuperating is Carol Dobson who took a fall awhile ago and has now discovered that she broke her back. She is healing slowly and has our thoughts and prayers.

Remember that to discover the place the Friday Jams are held, call one of the officers. We always welcome newcomers, card players, clappers and especially the regular and extraordinary musicians.

~ Marianne Andrews, District 9 Reporter

### February Events

1 gig	Oak Park	1-2 p.m.
14 gig	Rosehaven	10-11 a.m.
22 gig	Riverview Terrace	2:30-3:30 p.m.
26 gig	Callahan Village	3:30-4:30 p.m.
24 jam	Sutherlin Grange Hall	12-3 p.m.

would sing together and play harmonica in church. They lived a do-it-yourself life, gardening and raising pigs. During wartime, someone put together a washing machine for Mom that had a gas motor. Bernice remembers her mom kick starting the washer like you would a motorcycle. Doing laundry for six kids became fun.

The railroad workers got free travel on the train. That's how they wound up in Oregon. Bernice still loves the outdoors, gardening, dogs, little kids and reading Angela Lansbury mysteries. She lives, with her cat Blue, at Riverview Terrace in Roseburg and plays her harp for her neighbors' birthdays. She joins us when we have a gig there. She says everyone loves the kids coming through with musical talent at Riverview Terrace and thanks Kelly Wadsworth for bringing in her kid group. Bernice turned 91 on January 14, 2018.

Welcome to new member, Allison Lindley, who is a fine fiddler. She and her family recently moved from Idaho to Winston. Several of our district members went to Lebanon for the January 20 quarterly meeting and jam. Our district membership held a meeting on January 27. Look for highlights in the next issue.

~ Joe Ross, District 10 Reporter



District 10 jamming in Sutherlin in December (Tom Cormack, Liz Crain, Gene Hodson, Sandy Harter, Joe Ross, Colleen Hanks, Jim Kuether, Kelly Wadsworth, Hal Thompson)



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Ken Luse,  
979 Ascot Dr.  
Eugene, OR 97401



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Patti Luse  
Membership Chair

Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association  
979 Ascot Dr.  
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A Nonprofit Organization Article II:  
"Purpose - To promote, preserve and perpetuate Old Time fiddling and Old Time music. To encourage everyone, especially young people, to play the fiddle and appreciate Old Time Fiddling and Old Time Music. To provide regular times and places to meet to play this kind of music".

We're on the web:

[www.OregonOldtimeFiddling.org](http://www.OregonOldtimeFiddling.org)

[www.ootfa.org](http://www.ootfa.org)

## State Calendar

February 17	Celebration of Mark Carmickle, lunch and jam	Plumbers and Pipe-Fitters Hall, Springfield	11 - 3 p.m.
March 17	State Fiddle Contest	Chemeketa Community College, Salem	8 a.m.-10 p.m.
April 4-7	State Convention, Membership Meeting	Polk Co. Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR	
May 3-6	Silver Lake Campout	Silver Lake, OR (See District 1E's)	
June 1-2	Brookings Jamboree	Chetco Grange, Brookings Harbor	
June 14-16	Country Music Jamboree	Burns, OR	
June 18-23	National Fiddle Contest	Weiser, Idaho	
July 16-19	West Cascades Fiddle Camp and Workshops	near Oakridge, OR	
August 3 (Friday)	Willamette Valley Fiddle Contest	Benton County Fairgrounds, Corvallis, OR	
August 16-19	Winchester Bay Campout ("Fiddle at the Beach")		
September 6-8	Central Oregon Country Music Gathering	Crook County Fairgrounds, Prineville, OR	

### Note from Patti Luse, Membership Chair

**IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR 2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES...they are due by FEBRUARY 10!** After that time, you will no longer receive the Hoedowner that keeps us connected with friends and musicians around the state.

Contact your District Membership Chair TODAY or send dues to **Patti Luse, 979 Ascot Drive, Eugene, OR 97401.**

There are two dues choices:

- \$20.00 You will receive "The Hoedowner" emailed directly from the printer in a PDF format.
- \$25.00 You will receive "The Hoedowner" via the US Post Office in a printed format.

**Your dues are an important part of keeping the Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers alive and functioning.  
Be a contributing member! We need your help.**