

OREGON • OLDTIME • FIDDLERS' **THE HOEDOWNER**

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ootfa.org

February 2021



Colleen Hanks had a variety of musical experiences before joining the OOTFA family. Colleen is featured this month in District 10's report on page 9.

Virtual Reality

The March 20 Virtual Fiddle Contest is getting closer! - Plans are progressing and details will follow soon!

This will be a "live" contest – the platform will be announced soon. No need to travel – everything done from the comfort of your home!

Registration will be on-line and there will be limits set on the number of contestants in each division.



gdaewalt@comcast.net or call/text **503-701-1578** if you are interested in discussing volunteering or if you have any question about the contest.

OOTFA President's Report

Well, here we are looking forward to a quiet, peaceful rest of winter/spring with no commitments to worry about. Isn't that just great? **NOT!** It looks like the pandemic will be with us a bit longer. I find I must say one more time that all official events are canceled until restrictions are relaxed. Your state board of directors is still meeting via **Zoom** to take care of necessary business. The good part is that it is very cost effective.

Our household membership count is down a bit and I would like folks to remember that just because we can't meet, the association still has obligations (expenses) to take care of. The state budget depends on dues to supplement these cost. We are still doing things on a day to day basis. Long term it look like it may be the second year with no convention in May. At the January board we didn't set a date for the next board meeting, partly because we don't know what the restrictions will be. It may be that we will move the quarterly meeting to April (via Zoom) and look for the one after in June.

The **Virtual State Fiddle Contest** is looking like a go! **Eileen Walter** and her crew are working hard to make it happen. She is still looking for volunteers. Time to get involved and enjoy some great fiddling on the web.

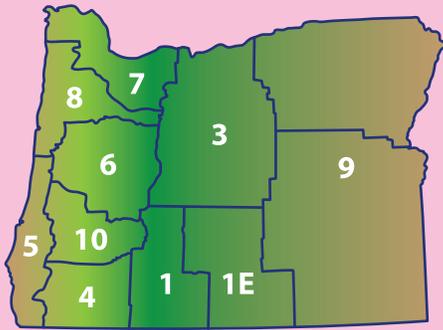
Remember that your officers are available for questions, explanations or just to chat. Contact information on page 2.

As always, remember our silent fiddles. ~ Scott

The rules will remain the same as they were for the 2019 contest, except without the Entertainment Showcase.

Contestants may perform unaccompanied, with live accompanists, with pre-recorded back-up, or with other rhythmic devices/tools.

Volunteers are needed for the day of the contest, including score tabulators and MC/hosts – all from the comfort of your home, of course. Please contact Eileen Walter at



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Dave and Barbara Basden have been working on updating the home page of ootfa.org to include virtual events available to OOTFA members or provided by OOTFA members, this includes virtual meetings of the organization.

The second project is to provide easy access to sheet music listed on the website. On the home page, District 6 is listed under Districts link. District 6 has provided a comprehensive list of sheet music for old time tunes. All links are working and each brings up a pdf file that can be downloaded and printed. District 6 has also provided links to [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/) video classes taught by **Ila Mae Carmickle**. Great resource!

Similarly, the [Tune of the Month](#) feature in each **Hoedowner** includes sheet music. We are working on providing links to pdf files for each of those tunes. There is a link on the home page to the [TOTM Tune Archive](#).

For a more inclusive source of sheet music for fiddle tunes played throughout the US, we recommend Tater Joe's website: <http://taterjoes.com/Fiddle/>

2020 OOTFA IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts are with the families

- Joseph & Betty Alff** of Portland -District 7
- Jon Blasius** of Klamath Falls - District 1
- Gerald Brown** of Eugene – District 6
- Betty Ann Chapman** of Christmas Valley - District 1E
- Joann Clark** of Eugene – District 6
- Zane Coffin** of Elmira – District 6
- Grant Combs** of Myrtle Point – District 5
- Larry Costa** of Florence - District 5
- Roger Germundson**, an OOTFA Past President of Gresham – District 7
- Sandy Griffith** of Brookings – District 5
- Helen Hakanson** of Portland – District 7
- Russ Hall** of Florence - District 5
- Daryl Hallgrimson** of Dayton – District 8
- Arlo Hamilton**, a longtime member of District 6
- Bob Huffman**, at 100 years 4 months & 16 days, of Portland – District 7
- Donna Janszen** of Salem - District 8
- Ruthie Kimmel** of Merlin – District 4
- Jerry Light** of Lakeview - District 1E
- Eileen McLain** of Lakeview – District 1E
- Marilyn Montgomery** of Springfield - District 6
- Timothy Monyahan** of Dallas - District 8
- Kathy Nash**, wife of Norm Nash (a distinguished member) – District 5
- David Owen** of Dayton - District 8
- Juanita Poelstra** of Winston - District 10
- Peggy Tucker** of Sandpoint, Idaho – Formerly of District 8
- Glen Whitman** of Bend – District 3
- Jim Winslow** of Medford – District 4



If there are members who passed away in 2020 who are missing from this list, please contact Patti Luse

New OOTFA Members February 2021

Tim and Patsy Sakraida Williams (4)

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Reporter: Jenny Dreyer 541-205-6397 doublejj25@gmail.com

Happy February! This month we will be showcasing a lovely lady in our District. She has officially been a member since 1994 but was involved in **OOTFA** before that because her Mom, **Rosie** and her Mom's boyfriend, **Pat Kraemer**, were very involved with District 5. Of course, her Mom and Pat were very influential to her involvement in OOTFA, but she's also had other people mentor and influence her along the way. There was the entire **Shaffar family**, the **McLain family**, but most of all it was her late husband **Phillip** who was most influential. She met Phillip in 1996 when he was Chairman of District 5. Phillip is the one who took over teaching her the fiddle from Pat, and they were married and singing and playing the fiddle for the next 20 years!

District 1E Lakeview, Silver Lake Area

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Secretary-Treasurer/Membership: Sharilyn McLain
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Reporters: Nancy Yialouris & Terry McLain

After last month and all that went with it let me wish you all a Happy Valentine's Day with the sincere hope that the remainder of this year leans more toward kindness and caring and less toward hatred and division.

As I write this article it is still nearly the middle of January. I've done a lot of thinking and soul searching due to the events that took place in our Nation's Capitol to start this new year. That started me thinking about our organization and the people who come from all walks of life and from all over our state to make music together. How easily we bond over our common passion despite where we come from, what our belief systems are, where we work (or used to work), how much money we make, or what our religious or political party affiliations might be. For us, it's "What is that chord you used...", or "You play so well! Show me how you did that." How easy it is to have a conversation with a stranger over a common love for music! And, how little, differences of opinion or beliefs matter when the focus is on sharing and or helping someone else achieve.

Her favorite two songs are special ones that he taught her; "Debbie's Waltz", because of the way he arranged it; and then "Baby Ben", because it was the very last song he taught her before he passed away. Her favorite OOTFA event is hands down **Silver Lake**, and she just loves the entire McLain family. She wishes the state would have more District get-togethers, post COVID, like back in the day when Districts would take turns hosting the **State Convention**. She has held many positions in OOTFA but is currently our District One Chairman.... Ms. Sheila Fry! Thank you Sheila for all you do for District One! We love you! Please pay your dues, if you haven't, and **KEEP FIDDLING**.



Sheila Fry & Jenny Dreyer

February Birthdays: **Ben Coker** and **Del Sparks**

~ Jenny Dreyer, District 1 Reporter

Music has always helped me over every hurdle or obstacle in my way. It's a soul soother, and emotional release, a sedative for the aching heart and a grounding in something beautiful and fun that can be shared if we want, or just used as a personal outlet, never going further than the confines of our own living room.

No two musicians think or play exactly alike. Some are more rhythmic, some more creative, some more capable of harmony, some blessed with beautiful lead voices, some who are great improvisers. When we come together in a jam, all those factors unite to create a joyful sound and a feeling of belonging.

I've been using my time to take some dobro lessons and that has helped me stay focused and speed the days along. The **McLain family** has continued to make music together each week in **Rosa Lee's** living room. Weather prevents a larger gathering that might have taken place outdoors.

I guess my point here is a personal one, a reminder to continue to model my interactions in the larger community of which I am a part, on the model that keeps our organization together; a disregard for the things that divide us and a focus on what we have in common and how I can be a better neighbor. In my humble opinion, that is how we will all survive months to come.

~ Nancy Yialouris, District 1E Reporter

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PO Box 73, Powell Butte, Oregon 97753

District 3 Website: centraloregonfiddlers.com

District 3 is not functioning as an opportunity to play music at this time. The only thing I have to report is that I continue to work with our young fiddler, **Chance Mott**, who is getting to be quite a hot little fiddler. He's polished off "Red Apple Rag", "Sacramento Mt Rag", "Huckleberry Rag" and continues to work on **Charlie Daniels** material.

District 4 Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland

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Membership Chair: Carol Ferrara lencarol2000@gmail.com
Fiddle Rustler: Ross Jones 206-595-8442 falcon259@gmail.com
Reporter: Judy Lyons 541-956-0618 blacklyon@charter.net

District 4 Website: OOTFA4.org Check Us Out!

While visiting her mom, who was then a resident of Fountain Plaza Senior Facility, **Judy McGarvey** first heard the music of **OOTFA** from musicians from District 4 who were performing for the residents. Judy was at that time a professional violinist with the **Rogue Valley Symphony**.

As she watched fiddlers Gene Williams and **Don Lindsey**, fiddles under their chins, smiling happily while they entertained the group with a spirited tune, she thought to herself, "they're having a lot more fun than I do playing with the symphony!"

Judy's violin training began when she was 7 years old living in Ohio from her teacher, **Mazelle Reinhardt**. She continued playing through her school years performing with her school's orchestras until she began nursing school. She packed her instrument away for 20 years while she practiced nursing and raised her family. Years later



Judy McGarvey, not afraid of b flat



Garitt Bondsteel

Jeff and Marlene Stevens, Joan Coleman and her mother **Corine, Casey and Chance Mott** and I get together twice a week to play. I am starting a new youth fiddle player next month so we should see that family as new members.

I am announcing my resignation as **District 3 Chairman** as of the end of January. I am also rescinding my nomination as **State VP**. I will continue to oversee the **District 3 Lending Library** and teaching fiddle when I can. I want to send a warm good bye to the good people I've worked with in OOTFA over the past many years.

~ Jeannette Bondsteel

she got it out again while living in Colorado when she had an opportunity to perform with a small Symphony group. In 1983 she moved to Medford and was hired by the **Rogue Valley Symphony**.

Judy joined OOTFA thru District 4 in 1997. She relates, humorously, her first 2 attempts at joining a monthly jam. The first try at a jam she came prepared

with her sheet music and music stand only to realize everyone else was playing by ear and from memory. Determined, the next month she memorized a waltz in....**b flat**. When, on stage she announced her tune in the key of b flat she knew from the faces of her fellow musicians she needed to change her key to A, quickly! Undeterred she resolved to memorize 3 new tunes each month and any of her fellow musicians will attest, no one comes

to a gig or jam more prepared than Judy McGarvey. She retired from the Rogue Valley Symphony after 20 years there and has devoted her time and talents to promoting and volunteering for OOTFA activities.

continued next page

District 4 continued

The fact that she has fun with her music is evident in the contest divisions she enters and wins. She has entered the **Oregon State** and the **National Fiddle** contests every year since 1999 only missing 2020 when the contest was canceled. Every year in the state contest she has placed in the top 5 in her division and been Senior, Senior Champion several years. At the **National Contest in Weiser, Idaho** she has won the costume division 7 times. She has played a fiddle tune while dressed as a; plate of spaghetti, a frog, a possum, a wood chopper and even a bird-house. Judy has also won the coveted "**Gene Williams Trophy**" for the best fiddler at the **Winchester Bay Music Festival**. One of her favorite trophies is the "**Firecracker Trophy**" awarded to her by **Larry Costa** in 2019 at the Winchester Bay gathering after her rousing rendition of the "Orange Blossom Special" that brought the standing room only crowd to raise the roof of the little grange room and was quickly posted on [YouTube](#).

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Fiddles and Vittles

With COVID precautions still taking precedence over both our regular (and irregular) performances and shows, we have realized that for a lot of us, sharing music is pretty much a family matter for right now. I present you with a good ol' song for your soul and a good ol' recipe for the rest of you.

The Fiddles "Cornbread and Butter Beans"

This is an old Southern song whose origins are long lost. It was apparently first recorded in the 1950's. The tune is reminiscent of "Take Me Back to Tulsa," the old **Bob Wills** song, in the key of G.

There are several versions on [YouTube](#). My favorite is by the [Carolina Chocolate Drops](#), whose instrumentation includes fiddle, banjo, bones, a jug, and a tambourine. I have included the chords and lyrics for the chorus (the tune for the verses is identical) For all lyrics type go to this link: [Cornbread and Butter Beans](#)

***Cornbread and butter-beans and you across the table
Eating beans and making love as long as I am able
Growing corn and cotton too and when the day is over
Ride the mule and cut the fool and love again all over***

Judy's commitment to District 4 has included 2 terms as **Chairman** and 1 term as **Co-Chair**. She also served one term as **State Co-Chair**. For 7 years she has held the volunteer position of coordinator for booking the monthly calendar of all the regularly scheduled gigs and booking new gigs. She works closely with the contract person for the group to insure that all preparations are complete. Undoubtedly one of her most successful contributions to the organization is the Wednesday afternoon jam she established and has led since 2002. Originally started to train new fiddlers, which it has done, she held the first sessions in a hall at the Methodist church she attends. The jam quickly became popular with musicians of all instruments and all ages and abilities. Musicians come to practice old tunes to keep them viable and to learn new "old" tunes being introduced. Judy's Wednesday afternoon jam has been the source of impressive growth in many district 4 musicians for years. The jam has been temporarily canceled due to the virus but Judy ensures it will resume again at the **Roxy Ann Grange** as soon as it is safe to do so. To district 4 Judy McGarvey is, undeniably, Instrumental.

Happy Valentine's day to everyone. Celebrate with your sweetie whether they have two legs or four and fur! Have fun!

~ Judy Lyons, District 4 Reporter

The Vittles: We looked for old Appalachian recipes, and found some! For the oven-fried cornbread:

blespoons canola oil, divided
1-1/2 cups finely ground cornmeal
1/4 cup sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
2 large eggs, room temp.
2 cups buttermilk



Place a 10-in. cast-iron skillet in oven. Preheat oven to 450°. Whisk together cornmeal, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In another bowl, whisk together eggs, buttermilk and 2 Tbsp. oil. Add to cornmeal mixture; stir just until moistened. Carefully remove hot skillet from oven. Add remaining 2 Tbsp oil to skillet to coat. Add batter; bake until golden brown and a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 15-20 minutes. Cut into wedges; serve warm. Accompany with warmed butter beans (tossed with garlic, rosemary, red pepper flakes, and wine vinegar to taste).

~ Al & Nicole Pierce, District 5 Reporters

HOEDOWNER

Tune of the Month

Valentine's Day. English, Country Dance Tune (6/8 time). G Major. Standard tuning (fiddle). AABB. The tune dates to John Playford's (1623-1687) 4th edition of his *Dancing Master*, 1670, where it appears under the title "Maid in the Moon", with "Valentine's Day" given as an alternate title. Valentine's Day customs had been discouraged by Commonwealth England, as were numerous folk and rural observances, but found renewed vigor in Restoration times.

Valentine. Performed by British folk artists Angela Fairhead and Colin Baker
Thanks to Karen Bennett of District 3 for bringing us January's Tune of the Month!

♩.=105

Valentine's Day

Playford, 1686

A

B

Musical notation for the first system of 'Valentine's Day' (AABB form). The first system (A) consists of two staves. The second system (B) consists of three staves. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, /, Am, D7, G, Em, D7, G; G, /, G7, /, C, /, C, A, A7, D, D7; G, /, G, /, C, D7, G, /.

Valentine

Musical notation for the 'Valentine' section, consisting of four staves. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, Am, D7, G, D; Em, C, Am7, G, D7, G; G, Em, Am, G, D; G, Bm, Em, C, D7, G.

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Wow, what a year! Hoping everyone survived the year 2020 and is keeping safe and has some enthusiasm to get back into playing music instruments, singing and dancing. Quite a few of us have had some setbacks. But it is just a bump in the road and we must keep going.

Birthday Greetings: **Kathy Ness** (2/5), **Gary Baran** (2/9). **Val Adams** (2/14), **Tony Humphreys** and **Phyllis Coffin** (2/20), **Claire Elliker-Vagsberg** (2/24)

~ Shirley Humphreys, District 6 Reporter

Back in the Day with District 6 Fiddlers: Earl Willis

By Linda Danielson based on an interview in the Oregon Old Time Fiddling Project Photo by John Bauguess

Earl Willis recalled his time as a dance fiddler playing for 2000 dancers in one of the big arenas in Los Angeles. This was during the square dance revival of the 1940s, when he also played for a big square dance party at the home of film star **Norma Shearer**, who set out a refreshment table with endless glasses of champagne. Somewhere around that time the recording industry recognized a good thing and began issuing recordings of square dance music. As Earl recalls, he and many other old-time musicians who played for the recordings, “just worked ourselves out of a job.”

All that was before Earl and his wife **Elsie** moved to southern Oregon about 1966, finally ending up in Springfield. By the time I knew him in the mid-1970s, Earl was a member OOTFA, went to the Sunday afternoon jams, occasionally played at Eugene’s **Saturday Market**, placed well in Oregon fiddle contests, and had gotten a reputation as one of the best hoedown fiddlers around. In 1975 he and a group of fiddlers from Washington and Oregon were anticipating traveling to Washington, D.C. to the **National Folklife Festival**. Shortly before the interview Earl had played for the grand opening of a Springfield restaurant managed by **Bruce Tomlin**, guitar player, singer, and also a member of OOTFA District 6.



Earl Willis

Telling about this event, Earl recalled playing for a similar event: the local unveiling in 1929 of the first six-cylinder Chevrolet back in his native north central Missouri. Earl was born in Mineola, Montgomery County, Missouri, in 1901, close to the Boone’s Lick Trail. This was the earliest route to lead settlers westward across the state in what became a steady stream, bringing a lot of musicians to the west coast from Oregon Trail days through the Depression and World War II. And yes, the trail was cleared by those Boones. Earl’s grandmother was descended from George Boone, Daniel’s brother.

Earl learned his first tune from his mother, who also played jaw harp and harmonica, as well as from numerous Boone uncles, all of whom seem to be fiddlers. Earl also spoke of learning from black fiddlers, in particular **Bill Burdick**, who “used to play for our farmers’ barbecues and fox hunts,” and **Bill Caton**, whom he would have heard performing live on local radio. He recalled a conversation with Burdick, comparing their approaches to “Sally Goodin,” which Burdick played in G, and Earl in A, each ending up trying out the other’s key.

Many of Earl’s tunes are among the ones we play today: “Mississippi Sawyer,” “Rubber Dolly,” “Wagoner,” “San Antonio Rose.” But others were from his mother (“Face The wall”) or Bill Burdick (“Old Kitchen Floor”). Still others were ingrained in the culture of North Central Missouri, known as “Little Dixie”: “Get Out of the Way Federals,” “Brickyard Joe,” or “Marmaduke’s Hornpipe,” named for a Confederate officer, later governor of Missouri.

Earl described how he’d hear a new tune, try to keep it in mind while riding horseback home from the dance, then “get out the fiddle and wake everybody up” trying to learn that tune. Some of us, much younger at the time (**Steve Bennett, Stuart Williams, Dave Moffitt, me**), hung out and listened closely to Earl. We learned some of Earl’s tunes, but I don’t suppose we ever got the “dishrag” looseness of his bowing wrist or the driving intensity of his hoedown playing. But whatever that was that Earl had, and what was brought to Oregon by all those streams of immigrating musicians from the midsection of the country, that has flavored what we now think of as Oregon fiddling.

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Greetings from District 7,

I hope you all are doing well and staying safe. It looks like the vaccine will now be available to many more people in February and that will help us make a big dent in all our COVID cases in Oregon. The future is looking more hopeful.

Even though we are all sick of staying home so much, I think the time is going by pretty quickly. Maybe it is because we are trying to fill our days with a lot of "interesting" things to do; reading, Zoom, TV, the daily news, and especially our music. One of the things that I and a few other OOTFA members have been working on is a new project with the **Portland Mega Band**. Every year we prepare for a large contra dance in March and learn many tunes for that occasion.

This year we are preparing to create a virtual musical experience with about 70 musicians. We need to prepare videos of ourselves playing seven tunes (for three dances). We listen on earphones with a metronome beating out the rhythm over the tune and then make a video recording of ourselves. Then the technical people assemble all the videos and weave in all the music to prepare the final result. I am sure that all of you have seen some of these virtual concerts and we really look forward to seeing our finished project sometime in March.

This month I'd like to write a little about District 7 member Maggie Dickerson. Maggie lives in Forest Grove near her daughter and family and has been playing musical instruments since she was in the 5th grade. She started with the violin but then in the 6th grade she and her teacher decided she should play the cello. When she entered High School she decided to play the viola for a few years, but then decided to go back to the violin. She really wanted to play the bass but was never able to. However, she is now happy to say that her son plays the bass and she loves hearing it.

Later when she started to have her children it looked like a good time to take a break from all instruments. Finally she did get back to playing again when she

heard about a class at Clackamas Community College called **Cabin Fever** which she took for a number of years. From then on she was hooked on the fiddle. In this class she met a number of OOTFA members and got involved with OOTFA. She also has done a lot of twin fiddling with **Joan Harrington**, and over the years has grown to love **Cape Breton Fiddle** music. Recently she took fiddle Zoom classes from **Jeanine Orme** and **Andy Emert** and hopes to do more Zoom classes again.

Many of you have heard of **Taborgrass** and others have taken classes there. It is a Bluegrass teaching program which, in pre-COVID times, had group classes on Saturdays teaching participants how to play bluegrass, fiddle, and other tunes in the bluegrass style. If you are a "newer" to intermediate player with the fiddle, guitar, banjo, or mandolin you might enjoy the Zoom classes they are having every Wednesday from 6-7. The cost is \$5.00. In the hour, usually three songs are played led by two leader-musicians. Since participants are "muted" no one can hear you playing and you are able to play lead, backup or noodle along. To find the class and the music, go to www.Taborgrass.com and look for the highlighted information about the Zoom class. You will find a lot of resources on the website.

Stay safe, everyone! ~ Elaine Schmidt, District 7 Reporter

District 8 Salem, McMinnville, Tillamook/Newport

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Feb 4 jam Slo-Jam at Marie Bailey's home.
This is your opportunity to learn or review Dist 8 jam tunes.

Feb 6 class Martha Hughes' zoom class at 9 am

Feb 18 jam Slo-Jam at Marie Bailey's home.
For the link for Zoom for Martha's class, contact Martha Hughes to get on her class email list. You can email Martha at mh.hughes8@gmail.com to join up, or send any inquiry.

Take Care You All. Let's keep in touch. Send us stories about what you're doing during this strange time.

~ Gayle Clarity, District 8 Reporter

District 9 Burns, John Day Area

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Reporter: Marianne Andrews

We are taking a pause on our Friday night jams due to an increase of COVID-19 in our county. Hello to everyone out there in our district. A big hello to **Carol Dawson**. We sure miss seeing our friends.

George Sahlberg is out of the hospital although still there once a day. He is cashing our checks and so please send in your dues.

Bob and June Miller send greetings from Arizona. They used to live in Melba, Idaho and have relocated to Arizona. They sure wish they were doing music with everyone.

Our next Potluck and Jam will be announced when the governor says we can go back to life as we knew it. We are looking forward to seeing everyone return and bringing your friends and your instrument.

~ Musically Yours, Marianne Andrews, District 9 Reporter

District 10 Roseburg, Canyonville, Sutherlin Area

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Sunbirds Frank Moore and Karen Bennett are enjoying warm weather and frequent jams. Frank keeps us apprised of tunes being played down south, and our district members have learned several new ones written by **Dave Brinkman**, a retired music teacher who also winters in Yuma. Some favorites include "Arizona Twilight Waltz", "French Creek Waltz", "Mashed Potato Rag", "Hayfield Hornpipe" and "Bluegrass Bounce". You can find his tunes, along with music and sound files, on [Dave Brinkman's website](#). For more info, email him at banjodb@gmail.com.

My right arm is still recovering from Lateral Epicondylitis (tennis elbow). Last summer I practiced and jammed too much, usually without enough warm-up. Once you get an ache in your elbow joint, it's hard to get rid of. I've tried rest, ice, heat, various ointments and several rehab exercises for the wrist and forearm. Have any advice? Remember what Woody Guthrie once said, "Take it easy, but take it!"

Keep on pickin' and grinnin'!

~ Joe Ross, District 10 Reporter

Colleen Hanks: Never Give Up

Colleen Hanks' first touch with a violin, in second grade, lasted for a few school lessons. Tuning it was a challenge. In high school, Colleen joined the **Folk Song Society** and learned tunes on guitar. She was a talented singer and loved the friendship. After marrying a banjo player, she picked up the fiddle. "It came easy to me," Colleen recalls. "I won first place beginning fiddle at the **1968 Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest**. **Dave Allen** and I moved to the San Francisco area and started up the **Quarter Dozen String Band**. We played old timey music all over the bay area. Eventually our marriage ended, and I stopped playing fiddle for 40 years."

Colleen remarried, raised a family, went to school, got a teaching credential and moved to Oregon to work. A few years later, **Jude Stensland** invited Colleen to watch her play harmonica with the **Down Home String Band**. Colleen started video coverage of local talent because she so loved the music. You can find many of her videos on her YouTube channel "[crhanksba2001](#)."

Colleen states, "I still had my fiddle and attempted to play it. It was a great struggle. I finally joined OOTFA where I had someone to play with. More video work brought me to District 6 fiddle lessons with Ila Mae Carmickle. I had trouble keeping up with all the tunes, but I've posted about 50 videos of her fine lessons on YouTube." Colleen also served as District 10's Chairperson for four exciting years.

Colleen enjoyed the monthly **Rolling Waves Celtic Session** (now known as the **Umpqua Celtic Jam**) in Roseburg. "They let me jam along with their big group, and eventually I was part of a Contra Dance evening," says Colleen. "My playing took off, and I enjoyed entertaining with my new musician families, Old-Timey and Celtic. I play when I can. Never give up."

Oregon Oldtime
Fiddlers' Association
979 Ascot Drive
Eugene, OR 97401



A Nonprofit Organization
Article II:
Purpose - To promote,
preserve and perpetuate
Oldtime Fiddling and
Oldtime Music.
To encourage everyone,
especially young people,
to play the fiddle and
appreciate Oldtime Fiddling
and Oldtime Music.
To Provide regular times
and places to meet and play
this kind of music.

Web Index

Online Resources for Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers

[Oregon Oldtime Fiddlers' Association](#)

Official Website for State

[OOTFA Facebook](#)

Facebook Site

[National Fiddle Contest](#)

Weiser, Idaho

[West Cascades Fiddle Camp & Workshop](#)

Pleasant Hill

[District 3 Website](#)

Central Oregon, Bend, Redmond, The Dalles

[District 4 Website](#)

Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland

[District 6 Fiddle Tunes](#)

Alphabetical listing of Fiddle Tune Sheet Music

[District 7 Facebook](#)

Portland, Northern Coast Area

[District 10 Facebook](#)

Roseburg, Canyonville, Sutherlin Area

[Hoedowner Archive](#)

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[Tune of the Month](#)

[Tune of the Month Archive](#)

[Colleen's YouTube Channel](#)

[Dave Brinkman's Website](#)

A fun site (and group) to visit and listen to mozartgroup.net/

Jonathan Trawick's informal weekly podcast episodes featuring Northwest musicians, some who are members of OOTFA

podland productions/fiddlemethis

We're on the Web! www.ootfa.org



District 7 Co-Chair Marcella Easy

Neither Covid nor loss of electricity can stop us from playing music. For the last 2+ years, we have met weekly to learn new fiddle tunes and guitar. When a large windstorm left us without power for several days, by the light of oil lamps and fireplace we still played. Pictured are Shannon, Saxon and Gretchen Ropp with Linda Parks. Jerry was there behind the camera!



Linda Hill of District 5 plays a pretty fiddle tune at the Mahaffy Pumpkin Patch, 2019



Art Choate, Donna O'Neill, Jesse Knudsen, Wayne Carter & Lisa Ponder in Ila Mae Carmickle's District 6 Fiddle Class