



MSOTFA Quarterly
Spring 1985 Vol 3 No 2
official publication of the
Missouri State Old Time Fiddlers Association
P. O. Box 7423, Columbia, Missouri 65205

DUES PAYABLE BY JUNE 30TH

If you find a red "X" in the box below then your dues should be paid on or before June 30, 1985. If you pay before that date the old rate of \$3.00 will still apply. After June 30 the new annual rate of \$5.00 will be in effect. ☐

If you have moved since you received your last newsletter, please send your new address so we can keep all this valuable information coming your way.

MID-AMERICA FIDDLIN' CHAMPIONSHIP JUNE 8 & 9 at BETHEL, MO

The Bethel German Communal Colony at Bethel, Missouri, is sponsoring the first annual Mid-America Old-Time Fiddlin' Championship and Convention to be held on June 8 & 9, 1985. MSOTFA is running the contest and we are inviting fiddlers from Missouri and all surrounding states to participate.

The convention opens officially at Noon on Saturday, June 8, but we are already anticipating many early arrivals on Friday night. Camping with hookups will be available as well as several reasonably priced motels within easy distance of the contest.

The contest features three divisions: junior, senior, and open. Eliminations will be held on Saturday evening beginning at 5:00 PM. Finals will be held at Noon on Sunday. Anyone called back to play on Sunday is assured of finishing in the money. The entire event should be over no later than 5:00 PM Sunday.

Qualified judges have been selected representing three Midwestern states.

In addition to prizes and trophies in three divisions, there will be three prizes for best accompanists, a cash prize to the fiddler or accompanist travelling the greatest distance, and trophies for the oldest and youngest fiddler. As an added attraction, there will be a special one-round Novelty/Trick tune contest on Saturday Night in which anything goes.

There will be no entry fees or admission charges to fiddlers or accompanists who register to compete the day of the event. Also, each fiddler and accompanist will be permitted one free admission for a member of their immediate family for each day they are registered to compete.

See the enclosed flier for further details. For more information contact Charlie Walden at 314/474-1219 or 314/882-8341. Contest rules and sample scoresheet available upon request.

TRADIN' MART

For the mere price of \$1.00 you can list fiddle-related products & services for sale, items you are looking for, and general announcements. Includable items consist of instruments, records, tapes, fiddle paraphernalia, repair services, instruction, etc. (no contest listings please).

FOR SALE: Ludwig tenor banjo, very good, c. 1930s. 314-756-1557.

ALBUMS/CASSETTES: Daniel Carwile--10 year old fiddler, \$8.00 each, 804 Peachtree St., Athens, AL 35611.

WANTED: fiddle albums & books; contact Bill Shull, 302 W. North St. Warensburg, MD 64093.

CONTEST CALENDAR ENCLOSED

The 1985-86 Contest Calendar is now available. This edition lists over 50 contests in Missouri and adjacent states. The calendar is being mailed out to over 800 fiddlers and fans this year. Additional copies may be purchased for one dollar (50 cents to MSOTFA members).

Thanks to Spencer Galloway for the excellent layout work. We think you find this calendar much easier to read and use than previous versions.

If you miss the regular feature article do not fear. An account of the life of Daniel Boone Jones has been prepared and will appear in the new MSOTFA Annual to be issued later this summer. This publication will be sent free of charge to dues-paying MSOTFA members only.

DEVIL'S BOX DISCOUNT EXPIRES

The Devil's Box is the only magazine in America devoted exclusively to fiddlin'. If you are interested in subscribing please contact the address below. The discount to MSOTFA members which was announced in the winter newsletter has now expired.

The Devil's Box
305 Stella Drive
Madison, Alabama 35758

MEMBERSHIP BY-LAWS CHANGED

MSOTFA has in the past offered membership free of charge for the first year of enrollment to allow potential members to decide

whether they could benefit from participation. Response has been excellent and over 150 persons have enrolled. However, after June 30, 1985 membership dues will be payable immediately upon enrollment.

Also, after June 30 membership dues will increase to \$5.00 per year. If you pay your 1985-86 before June 30 the old rate of three dollars will still apply. We do not anticipate a need to increase dues for many years to come.

NEW OFFICER SELECTED

John Stewart, accompanist of Columbia, Missouri, has been selected to fill the position as 1st Vice President which was left vacant when Chris German moved out of the state.

John has numerous qualifications for the position. He knows fiddling and is an excellent accompanist on the guitar. Also, John has demonstrated a great talent at licking stamps and stuffing envelopes. Since this is one of the main activities of MSOTFA officers, John is well suited for the job.

TINA REUNION A BIG SUCCESS

The 2nd annual Missouri Valley Old-Time Fiddlers Reunion was held on May 3 & 4 at Tina in Carroll County, Missouri. The event was sponsored by MSOTFA in cooperation with the Tina Fiddlers.

An estimated 300 people took part in the weekend activities. Over thirty fiddlers and accompanists were on hand to provide music for the dancers. There were plenty of impromptu "jams" all around town.

Thanks to everyone who came and contributed.

CONTEST SCRAPBOOK.

The Boonville fiddle contest, first held in 1964, is one of the longest-running contests in the state. Sponsored by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Far West #4, the contest was initiated by fiddlin' Cecil Windsor as a fund-raising event for the lodge. The contest is held every year in March in the Laura Speed Elliot Junior High Auditorium in Boonville. The event is not held in conjunction with any other attractions and is for that reason somewhat unique.

The contest usually commences at around 7:00 PM. The fiddling performances are often separated by renditions of country songs provided by local talent. There is a door prize drawing for a variety of donated items. A food counter is kept open throughout the contest by the Rebeccas, the IOOF women's group. Ham sandwiches, sweets, and coffee are served. There is ample warm-up space in the hallways surrounding the auditorium.

Boonville has enjoyed fine participation by fiddlers, never

having had fewer than 15 and many years approaching 30 contestants. This is due in part to the well organized manner in which the contest is run and the fact that Boonville represents the beginning of the contest season after the musical lull of a Missouri winter. Harvey Harris and Clinton McCleary are the co-chairmen for the contest.

Clinton McCleary has graciously provided the following clip from the IOOF scrapbook announcing the winners in an early contest at Boonville.



WINNING FIDDLERS--Chosen by the judges as the five outstanding old time fiddlers were, left to right, Cleo Persinger of Rocheport, first; Pete McMahan of Col-

umbia, second; Albert Hackmeyer of Mokane, third; Lawrence Noah of Kansas City, fourth; and Henry Thompson of Iberia, fifth.

Mid-America

Old-Time Fiddlin', Championship & Convention



Saturday & Sunday,
June 8 & 9, 1985

Bethel,
Shelby County, Missouri



More than

\$1500

in prizes & trophies.

3 Divisions:

Open: \$200 first, 8 places.

Senior: \$150 first, 5 places.

Junior: \$50 first, 3 places.

Special Novelty Tune Contest
Saturday Nite: \$50. Three cash
prizes for accompanists. Cash
bonus to fiddler or accompanist
traveling the greatest distance.
Trophy for oldest and youngest
fiddler.

Schedule of Events:

Saturday:

12:00 Noon: Convention opens, jam sessions,
workshops, entertainment, food, Bethel German Band.

4:00 p.m.: Fiddlers' registration.

5:00 p.m.: Contest eliminations begin.

Sunday:

11:00 a.m.: More jam sessions, food, workshops.

12:00 Noon: Contest finals begin.

NO ENTRY FEES OR ADMISSION CHARGE to contestants or
accompanists. Each contestant and accompanist will be permitted one
free admission for a member of their immediate family on each day
they are registered to compete.

For further information:
Charlie Walden
P.O. Box 7423
Columbia, Missouri 65205
(314) 882-8341 or 474-1219

Sponsored by the
Bethel German Communal Colony
of Bethel, Missouri.

DESIGN: SPENCER GALLOWAY

Contest run according
to MSOTFA guidelines.