

# BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

September/October 1984

Volume 10, Number 5



## Bill White

Plan to attend the Bill White Benefit on September 30 at Fort Mason



# California Bluegrass Association

*Bluegrass Breakdown* is published bimonthly at 735 College Street, Woodland, California, 95695 by the California Bluegrass Association. The CBA is a non-profit organization founded in 1975 and is dedicated to the furtherance of Bluegrass, Old Time, and Gospel music. Membership in the CBA costs \$10.00 a year and includes a subscription to the *Bluegrass Breakdown*. A spouse's membership may be added for an additional \$2.50 and children between 12-18 for \$1.00 per child. Children 12-18 who wish to vote will have to join for \$10.00. Names and ages are required. Band memberships are available to bands with three or more people for \$5.00 per band member. Subscription to the *Bluegrass Breakdown* are available only to foreign locations. Make checks payable to California Bluegrass Association and mail along with the membership application located on the inside of the back cover to the address below. Second Class postage is paid in San Francisco, California and at additional mailing offices, *Bluegrass Breakdown* (USPS 315350). Postmaster, please send address changes to:

**Bluegrass Breakdown**  
P.O. Box 11287  
San Francisco, CA 94101-7287

Board meetings are usually held the second Sunday of each month and all members are invited and encouraged to attend.

## Board Meeting Summary

Board of Directors: Ray Edlund (RE), Mike Johnson (MJ), Bob Lawrence (BL), Carl Pagter (CP), Don Powell (DP), Kathleen Schoggins (KS), Kathy Tyler (KT), Fred Volz (FV), and Butch Waller (BW).

### Meeting of July 7, 1984

Marc Slavin presented the Harvest Festival concept and asked CBA's help in getting bands, fiddle players, etc., who would like to tryout for their productions.

BMI - CP was authorized to negotiate with BMI over their fee for music being played at the festivals. CP to write letter and send check to cover the Sept. festival.

Country Gentlemen have signed contract for June 15, 16, 1985.

Bill White benefit set up for Sept. 30 at Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Rm. 300. M/S/C to advance \$250 maximum against income to put on affair.

Bob Paisley and The Southern Grass will be putting on concert Sept. 15 at Paul's. M/S/C for CBA to pay difference of Paul's cost up to \$200. CBA member get in for \$1 off regular price.

### Meeting of August 12, 1984

Present: MJ, FV, RE, CP, DP. Officer Present: EA. Others present: Mark Hogan.

Lost and Found: M/S/C that CBA do a concert for Lost and Found on same deal as Bob Paisley, either at Paul's or some place in Stockton.

CP moves to create a new class of membership, Junior Membership for children 12-18, at \$1.00 per child, non-voting. Children 12-18 wishing to vote must pay full \$10 individual membership fee. M/S/C.

DP moves that membership chairman be authorized to change band numbers to begin with letter "B". M/S/C.

One new benefit of Bill White date - National Folk Festival will be going on at Fort Mason. They will allow people attending White benefit in for half-price, and we will let Folk Festival people in for half-price. RE asked for volunteers and band who want to help and/or play at benefit to call him.

Bob Lawrence reelected to Board following three absences.

## Thanks

Thanks to Glenn Christensen, Ken Donnell, Matt Thompson, and Melissa and Anne Powell for helping me get this issue out.

## Board of Directors/Officers of CBA

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(415) 763-2580

**\* Indicates a member of the Board of Directors**



# Special Events

**September 15** - Paul's Saloon will be featuring Bob Paisley and the Southern Grass in a special concert show. CBA members will receive a \$1 off admission for this rare treat. 3251 Scott Street, San Francisco, 922-2456. Paul's is the home of live bluegrass music seven nights a week.

**September 30** - Bill White Benefit at Fort Mason, Bldg. C, Room 300. The price has not been set, but this will be from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. of the finest bluegrass and country music in California - all to help Bill White in meeting and overcoming his physical and financial problems. Parking at Crissy Field, with free shuttle bus to Fort Mason. A special 1/2 price ticket to the National Folk Festival can be purchased by anyone purchasing a ticket to the Benefit. The festival will be going on at Fort Mason all weekend. Concessions by the Freight & Salvage Coffee House and arrangements for helping or for playing can be made by calling Ray Edlund, (707) 884-3195.

**October 27-28** - Fall Porterville Bluegrass Festival, Chuck's Hidden Lake, featuring Sherbrook Family, Newgrass, and others. Sat. \$6., Sun. \$5. Advance 2-day - \$10. Children 12 years and under and 65 and over - free. Info and tickets: Jack Ramsey, 2089 N. Spruce. Exeter, CA 93221.

## Editor's Comment

### Box Lunch Social Looks Good

Members of the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society should be congratulated for coming up with a "new" event - one right out of "Oklahoma" or some of the other great works of the west - the Box Lunch Social.

Everything you read about it makes it should like pure fun - and that's what I like. For example - from one of the stories I have read about the event - "Featuring the live music of the Bear Creek Boys, a squaredance caller, hugging booth, dancing, an auction of box lunches made by the SCBS's most eligible bachelorettes and bachelors, a bluegrass trivia contest, craft booths, plus great food from Taco Joe of Grass Valley fame."

Now how can you top that for just pure pleasure!

Thanks SCBS for a great idea and an event I personally am planning to attend. Fits right in - my anniversary is that weekend and with Santa Cruz so close - two birds with one trip!

### September Board Meeting

Next meeting of the Board of CBA will be September 16 at 1:30 p.m. at the office in Berkeley. This is a change from the regular second Sunday due to Grass Valley and the elections.

**October 27** - Box Lunch Social and Squaredance sponsored by the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Soquel Grange Hall, 2800 Porter St., Soquel, CA. Music by the Bear Creek Boys. Admission free with donation of box-lunch. \$3.50 for SCBS members, \$4.50 for non-members. 50¢ discount for wearing old-fashioned costume.

**November 9-10-11** - Wickenburg, Arizona Bluegrass Festival. Over \$6,000.00 in cash prizes for fiddlin, mandolin, flatpick guitar, and banjo picking. Competition also in specialty instruments, old-time bands, specialty vocals, bluegrass bands and family bands. Info: Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Drawer CC, Wickenburg, AZ 85358.

## Membership classes for children to change

By a Board vote, the membership category for children under 12 has been eliminated and all children 12-18 are now in a separate category called Junior Membership.

This membership will cost \$1.00 per child and will not include voting privileges. Children 12-18 wishing to vote must pay full \$10 individual membership fee.

What this does is streamline the membership classes and reduces the workload of the volunteer membership secretary. Since a Junior Member can secure a membership ticket to festivals, this will make it easier for the tickets sales to be handled, as names and ages must be submitted with each Junior Membership. This class of member will not receive a copy of the Breakdown.

Date for this to take effect will be September 1.

## Elections will run until Sept. 9; Ballots can be mailed or turned in at Grass Valley Festival

The annual election of directors for the California Bluegrass Association is currently underway, with the ballot having been mailed out on August 24. CBA members can either bring them to the Grass Valley Labor Day Festival or mail them to the Association Post Office Box, P.O. Box 11287, San Francisco, CA 94101-7287.

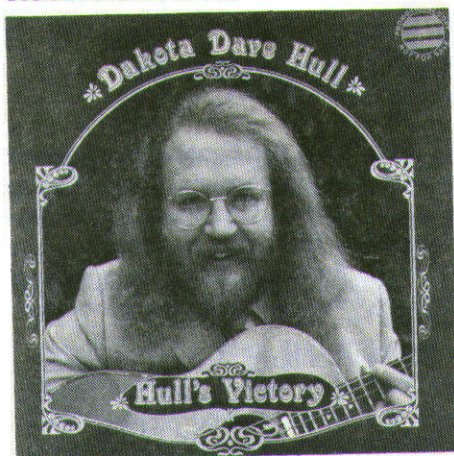
All ballot received by Sunday, September 9 will be counted. The new Board will take over the business of the Association on September 16.

### Deadlines

Deadline for stories for the November/December issue of *The Breakdown* will be on Saturday, October 20, 1984, with a mailing date of November 2, 1984. If you have events for the Special Events listing, please get them in and list events that will happen through January. All advertising needs to be in by this date.



## Record Reviews



### "Hull's Victory" Dakota Dave Hull Flying Fish 294

*Side One: Steel Guitar Rag; Blackberry Blossom; Shavin' The Cat; St. Anne's Reel-Hull's Victory; I Don't Love Nobody; Festival Waltz; Bill Cheatham. Side Two: Ragtime Annie; Midnight On The Water; Don Lohr's Coffee; Maiden's Prayer; Whiskey Before Breakfast; New Camptown Races.*

Plenty of top quality acoustic, stringed music is available on this

album featuring Dakota Dave Hull, Sean Blackburn, Peter Ostrousko, Mike Cass, Doc Watson, Bob Douglas, Butch Thompson and more.

While many of the numbers are innovative and closer to jazz than bluegrass (traditional, that is), the technical work of all the performers is outstanding. You sit in awe of the continued brilliance of Doc Watson's guitar work, Peter Ostrousko's guitar, mandolin and fiddle. Harmonies flow from each player and, in cases, fairly sparkle.

Hull's work is tremendous. Alone he would have been superb, but with these sidemen - what can you say.

For purists, some disappointment, but don't neglect this record because it doesn't fit the mold. It is a pure pleasure to listen to and dream about actually seeing these artists perform live.

#### Letters -- Continued from Page 10

than just the four times a year of Breakdown publication.

How about say a "Bluegrass Update" between Breakdowns with up-to-date listings and brief news on near-term upcoming festivals. Two, three or four mimeographed, stapled (but not bound) pages would seem to suffice for

such an "Update" that could perhaps be compiled and sent out monthly.

Perhaps CBA members would (I certainly would) be willing to pay extra for an "Update" thus enhancing the CBA treasury.

Sincerely,  
Ben Kramer, CBA 2367

Dear Ben:

*The Breakdown comes out six times a year, so we are really talking about only one or two extra publications a year. Postage: about \$45 each issue for 2-4 8½x11 pages; Reproduction: About \$100-150 each issue, time and expenses: \$50 per issue. Labels and computer service: \$75 per issue. So we are talking about \$275. per issue for this type of publication. The other factor is that all of the work is volunteer and is dependant on someone getting the news and dates to the volunteer.*

*I would love to see it - perhaps eliminate one winter Breakdown and use the funds for two or three Updates during the festival season.*

*It's food for thought and something that I will bring to the Board's attention.*

Editor

## Bluegrass Social Event of the Year!

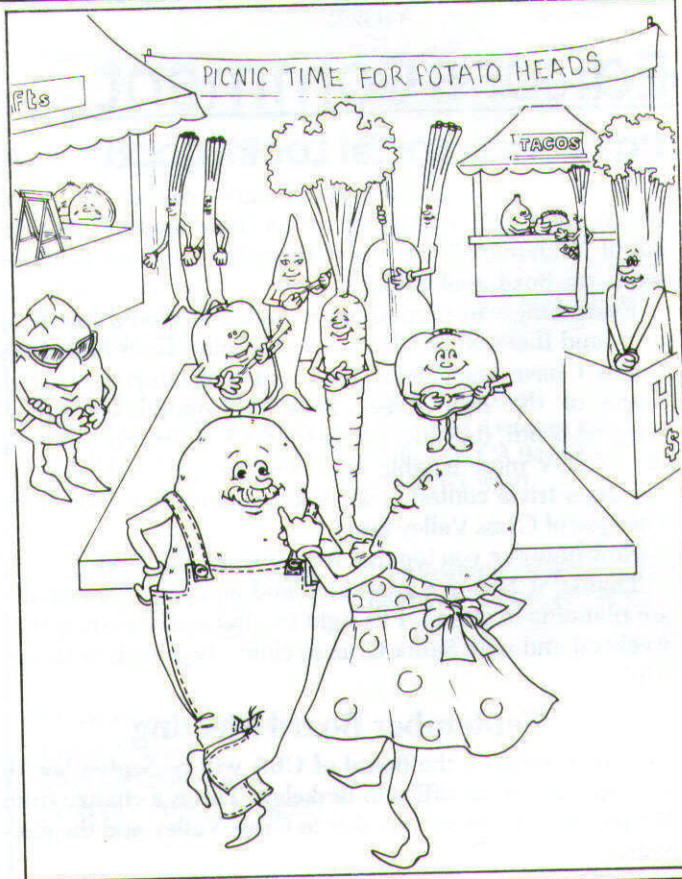
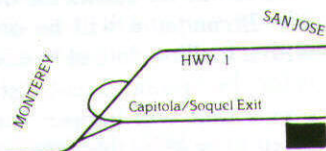
# OLD FASHIONED BOX LUNCH SOCIAL & SQUAREDANCE

Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society

Live Music by the Bear Creek Boys • Square Dance Caller  
Box Lunch & Pie Auction (7pm) • Hugging Booth  
Arts & Crafts Booths • Taco Joe's Burritos & Tacos  
Bluegrass Trivia Contest • Other Surprises

Saturday, Oct. 27, 1984 • 5:30 - 11:30pm  
Soquel Grange Hall, 2800 Porter St., Soquel, CA  
Admission: FREE with Donation of Box Lunch  
\$4.50 Non-Members • SCBS Members \$3.50  
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For Information Call:  
408/244-2247,  
408/425-4941,  
or \*408/637-7810  
\* Sun., Mon. & Tues.







# **Bill White Benefit**

Benefit to help out Bill, who is both physically & financially troubled

**Sunday, Sept. 30, 2 - 8 p.m.**

**Fort Mason, Building C, Room 300**

**Volunteers / Performers / Bands Interested In helping and / or playing  
should contact Ray Edlund, (707) 884-3195**

Parking available at Crissy Field - Free Shuttle Bus to Fort Mason

**Sponsored by California Bluegrass Association, Freight & Salvage, & CGNRA**



Coming to



The home of live "Bluegrass Music", 3251 Scott Street, San Francisco,  
seven nights a week!

## Bob Paisley & The Southern Grass

September 15

*Admission charge for this first Northern California ever performance by this  
outstanding Bluegrass Group.*

*CBA Members will receive \$1.00 off admission for this night of music.*

922-2456

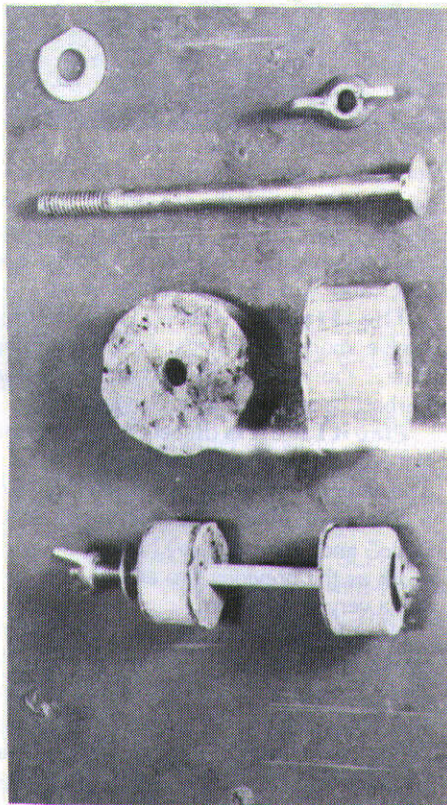


## Repair Workshop: Regluing Loose Ribs on Fiddle and Basses

*(Ken Donnell has been building and repairing stringed instruments for 11 years. His workshop is located at Marriott's Music, 392 Elm Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603, (916) 823-8404. Ken is also known as the "travelling luthier", having been the resident luthier at several California music festivals.)*

by KEN DONNELL

As I mentioned in last month's article, the hide glue used in violins (and upright basses) will eventually fail. The most common place for this to occur is where the ribs (sides) are joined to the top or back of the instrument. It's easy to repair loose ribs if the problem hasn't grown too large. But if the glue failure is excessive, it will be necessary to remove and reglue the entire plate. The latter can be difficult and expensive, and should be avoided unless major internal repairs are necessary.



Violin Spool Clamps

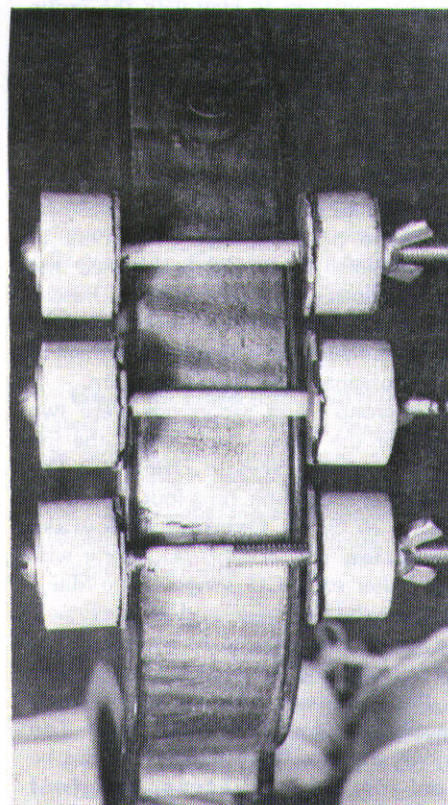
The tools needed for these repairs are: spool clamps and some hide glue.



Spool clamps can be bought from luthier supply companies, but it's easy to make your own. Cut the spools from any soft wood with a 1" hole saw and glue cork to the faces meeting the instrument. Drive a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " by  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " carriage bolt (12" for basses) into one of the spools, slip the other spool past the threaded end, and add a flat washer and wing nut to complete the clamp. Carriage bolts are normally threaded 1" down from the end. If you need more "throw" on your clamp, cut longer threads onto the bolt with a machinist's

die (probably a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " by 20 threads per inch).

Unless you've had experience working with ground hide glue, it would be best to use the liquid hide glue marketed by the Franklin Company (available at Sears). Its slower setting time will help to relieve the time pressure from your work. Allow the glue to dry 48 hours in warm, dry weather, and twice that long in cold, wet weather.



Spool clamps in use.

Continued on Page 10



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# Discography

## The Country Gentlemen

by Matt Thompson

Since their formation in 1957, the Country Gentlemen have been creating some of the most exciting sounds to be heard in bluegrass music. What started out as a basically traditional group later became the leading force in the field of contemporary bluegrass. Singer-guitarist Charlie Waller is the only musician to stay with the group throughout its entire career, and his presence has kept the group's sound intact. He is an exceptional singer, and although his voice is quite different from that of other bluegrass singers, it is a pleasure to listen to. The inimitable John Duffey, playing mandolin and singing tenor vocal, was also one of the group's founding members. In 1959 banjoist Eddie Adcock joined the group, followed one year later by bassist Tom Gray. It is this combination of musicians that most bluegrass fans think of as the "original" Country Gentlemen.

The group's first recordings were two songs for the Dixie label: "Goin' the the Races" and "Heavenward Bound." The latter song is available on a four-record set entitled **70 Song Original Bluegrass Collection** (Rebel 1473-76), along with three other early CG songs: "Blue Man," "Patty on the Turnpike" and "White Rose." The group then started to record on the Starday label and the Folkways label. Some of the Starday material is presently unavailable, but much of it can be found on various sources. "Hey Little Girl" can be found on **16 Greatest Original Bluegrass Hits** (Starday SD-3015). "Hills and Home" is available on **Hills and Home, Thirty Years of Bluegrass** (NW 225). "Orange Blossom Fiddle" is found on **Banjo in the Hills** (Starday SLP 104). "Helen" is available on (Rebel-2201). See the book entitled "The Country Gentlemen, 25th Anniversary 1957-1982" for details on the unavailable Starday recordings.

**Bluegrass at Carnegie Hall** (GT-0102) is a recent release by Gusto Records of some of the best Starday material. Its fourteen songs include "Two Little Boys," "Sunrise" and "Red Rocking Chair." It is not a live album, as is suggested by the title, but it is a must for every bluegrass fan!



**Country Songs Old and New** (FA2409) is the CG's first Folkways album. This is a great collection of sixteen songs. An insert with information on the group and the songs, as well as words to all the songs, is also included. Super picking and singing!

**Folk Songs & Bluegrass** (FA 2410) is another Folkways release with sixteen more songs and a similar insert. The songs include "The Fields have Turned Brown," "Victim to the Tomb" and "Come All Ye Tender Hearted."

**On The Road** (FA 2411) contains excerpts from two live concerts. Live recordings by the early CG are worth checking out because of their crazy performances. Charlie shows off his voice by imitating a duck, a frog, and a girl on "Ain't Got a Home." You can hear the whole group sing with an English accent on "Blue Ridge Mountain Home." The album also contains an insert with notes.

**Bluegrass Country** (Pickwick JS-6156) is the latest reissue of an album originally entitled **Hootnanny**. It features ten fine songs done by Waller, Duffey, Adcock and Gray including "Pallet on the Floor," "East Virginia Blues," "500 Miles" and "You Left Me Alone." Pick up a copy of this album if it is still available.

**Folk Session Inside** (Mercury SR 60858, MG 20858), is a much sought after collector's item. Although out of print, all but three of its twelve songs, ("Girl Behind the Bar," "The Schoolhouse Fire" and

"Nightwalk") have been reissued on various Rebel albums.

**The Best of the Country Gentlemen** (Rebel 1498) is a reissue of twelve of the early CG's best songs, including seven songs from the Mercury album — "Heartaches" and "This Morning at Nine" among them.

**Going Back to the Blue Ridge Mountains** (Folkways FTS 31031) is yet another live album on the Folkways label. Sixteen songs, recorded with excellent sound quality, are featured. This is a very good live album.

**The Country Gentlemen Sing Bluegrass** (ZAP 101) is a long out-of-print album. The sound quality on this live album is poor.

**Christmas Time Back Home** (Rebel 1600) is a fine bluegrass Christmas album which includes three songs by the early CG: "Christmas Time Back Home," "Jingle Bells" and "Silent Night."

**Bringing Mary Home** (Rebel 1478) is the first of a long series of albums for Rebel Records as well as the debut of Ed Ferris as bassist. Along with the classic title song are eleven fine songs, including "Brown Mountain Light," "This World's No Place to Live" and "Let the Light Shine Down."

**The Traveler** (Rebel 1481) features twelve more recordings, including "Baby Blue," the classic "Matterhorn," "Amelia Earhart" and "Dark as a Dungeon."

**Play it Like it Is** (Rebel 1486) marks the last recordings of John Duffey with the CG. The album's twelve songs include "He Was a Friend of Mine," the instrumental "El Dedo" and "Mary Dear." I don't like it as much as the previous two albums, but it is still a very good album.

**New Look, New Sound** (Rebel 1490) marks Eddie Adcock's last recordings and Jimmy Gaudreau's debut as mandolinist and tenor singer. It includes the songs "Where I'm Bound," "Roger Young" and "Ramblin' Boy." The sound of the group was changing, but the music is still of high quality.

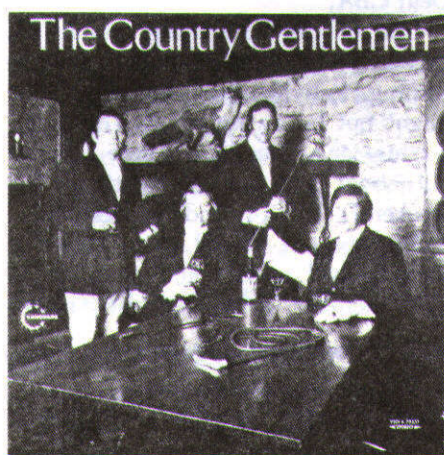
**One Wide River to Cross** (Rebel 1497) is the group's first all-gospel album. The addition of Bill Yates on bass and Bill



Emerson changes the sound of the group even more. The album's twelve fine songs include "Sunny Side of Life," "I Am a Pilgrim" and "He Will Set Your Fields on Fire."

**Sound Off** (Rebel 1501) is Gaudreau's last album with the group before leaving to play with other groups. The album features hot pickin' by both Emerson and Gaudreau, as well as some fine singing. The songs include "Sea of Heartbreak," "Orange Blossom Mandolin," "Teach Your Children" and "Fox on the Run."

**The Award-Winning Country Gentlemen** (Rebel 1506) is a great album containing many CG favorites. This album marks Doyle Lawson's debut as mandolinist and tenor singer for the group. Included are "Legend of the Rebel Soldier," "Redwood Hill," "Little Bessie" and "Secrets of the Waterfall." A super album!



**The Country Gentlemen** (VSD 79331) is the first of two albums recorded on the Vanguard label. The album's songs include "Traveling Kind," "One Morning in May," "Casey's Last Ride" and "House of the Rising Sun." Mike Auldridge and Ricky Skaggs join in on this one.

**Remembrances and Forecasts** (VSD 79349) is another excellent album on the Vanguard label, with the songs "Delta Queen," "The Little Grave" and "Lord, Protect My Soul."

**Live at McClure!** (Rebel SLP-1554-1555) is a live two-album set with Ralph Stanley and various other artists. The CG appear on two songs: "Matterhorn" and "Legend of the Rebel Soldier." This was recorded during Doyle Lawson's stay with the group. Bill Holden is on banjo.

**Joe's Last Train** (Rebel 1559) includes the songs "Ages and Ages Ago," "Pamela Brown" and "Cryin' Holy." This return to Rebel Records is another success in a series of fine albums.

**Calling My Children Home** (Rebel 1574), the group's second gospel album, is one of the best bluegrass gospel albums

ever recorded. It features twelve beautiful songs including two a cappella numbers. This album is essential.

**Yesterday & Today, Volume One** (Rebel 1521)

**Yesterday & Today, Volume Two** (Rebel 1527)

**Yesterday & Today, Volume Three** (Rebel 1535)

Without going into the background of all the songs on these albums, I would like to say that these three albums, despite their unattractive covers, are important additions to your Country Gentlemen collection. Each record contains twelve songs, most of which were previously unreleased or out of print and some that were recorded live. There are a few repeats from other albums, but this is basically material that is unavailable elsewhere. Songs are included from various stages of the group's career.

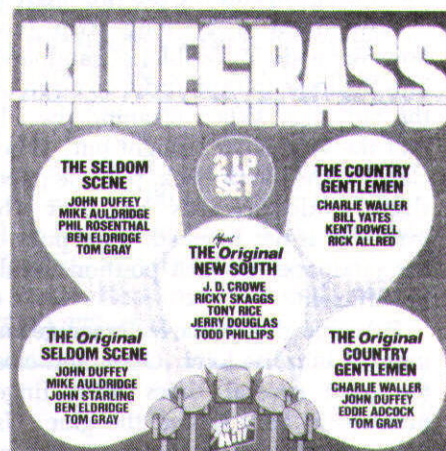


**Twenty-fifth Anniversary** (Rebel 2201) is the title of a double-album set commemorating the Gent's silver anniversary. This is a very handsomely packaged collection. The best thing about this album is the time-line inside the album cover. Four lines representing the guitar, mandolin, banjo, and bass extend across the jacket covering the years 1957 to 1982. Every person who has ever played with the group is listed on this graph which will be helpful to fans wanting to know more about the group. The songs presented on the album are not all necessarily among the group's best, and the order in which they are presented is questionable, but this is still a very important album for CG fans. Six songs previously unavailable are also included.

**Sit Down Young Stranger** (SH 3712) is the group's first album on the Sugar Hill label, for which they still record. Kent Dowell, banjo, and Rick Allred, mandolin, are present on some of the cuts. Highlights

include "Come Sit By the River," "Love and Wealth," "It's Just Like Heaven" and "For the First Time."

**River Bottom** (SH 3723) is the group's second to last album. The songs include "Riverboat Fantasy," "Coal Black Gold" and "Things In Life."



**Bluegrass — Greatest Show on Earth** (SH 2201) is a great live double-album set featuring the Seldom Scene, J.D. Crowe, the Country Gentlemen, and a regrouping of the "original" Country Gentlemen. This is a super collection, full of fantastic music, and well worth buying.

**Good as Gold** (SH 3734) is the group's latest installment in a long series of excellent recordings. Jimmy Gaudreau is now back with the group on mandolin. Dick Smith is the current banjo player. Along with Charlie Waller and Bill Yates they make up today's Country Gentlemen.

I have not listed any singles recorded by the group or any albums or live recordings released exclusively in Japan. For more information on these consult the book I mentioned earlier. One point I would like to mention is that Rebel Records is currently discontinuing certain albums from its catalog. Among these are Rebel 1481, 1486, and 1527. You may want to pick copies of these albums if they are not already sold out. My opinion is that you can't go wrong when buying a Country Gentlemen album. Whereas most other major bluegrass bands have had albums that were flops, the Country Gentlemen have consistently produced albums of superior quality. I haven't told you anything about the history of this fine group, but a simple listen to the previously mentioned recordings will tell you all that you need to know. The Country Gentlemen have earned their place in the world of bluegrass music.

Yours in bluegrass  
Matt Thompson



Working on a flat table with a towel or pad underneath the instrument, begin by de-tuning the instrument one whole step. Insert the feeler gauge into the joint and use light to moderate pressure in determining the area needed to be glued. Don't be alarmed if the crack grows during this probing.

Now insert a 2" long strip (and however wide is possible) of sandpaper into the loose joint in order to clean off the old glue. When cleaning the rib, pull the sandpaper straight out. When cleaning the top or back, pull the paper slightly downwards so that the overhang is not touched. Two pulls of the sandpaper in each position should be sufficient.

Put some glue on the feeler gauge and insert it into the joint. Open and close the joint several times with finger pressure to help spread the glue. Use only enough glue so that a small bead appears along the entire length of the joint when pressure is applied, and wipe this off with a damp cloth.

Install the clamps and bring them to moderate pressure. After 2-4 hours, carefully remove the clamps, clean off any remaining glue, and replace the clamps until the joint has fully dried. You can then permanently remove the clamps, tune to pitch, and "play 'til you



Sanding old glue from the joint.

fingers burn."

Please send any questions to me c/o the Breakdown. Until then....Good luck and HAPPY PLAYING.

## Letters

### Loved June Festival

Dear CBA,

The High Window Boys want to thank you all for having us up again for the festival in June. The setting and weather were lovely, as usual, and the audience was great. The Grass Valley festival is consistently well-organized and smoothly run, and it's a pleasure to perform there.

Thank you, and thanks again for inviting us. We are ready to make the drive any time.

Don Ridgway  
The High Window Boys

### How about an UPDATE?

Dear CBA,

One of the nice things about the Breakdown is that it advises on upcoming festivals that otherwise one might not be aware of. For example, because of a Breakdown note I found out about and may well attend this weekend's (July 14) Anderson festival.

However, it would seem better if such festival news could circulate to CBA members more frequently rather

Continued on Page 4

## Book Review

### The Fiddle Series

Book I by Greg Baker

Reviewed by Hollis Taylor

Beginning fiddling books usually disappoint me in several ways--they leave out important information on technique; the tunes are all at one level rather than progressing in difficulty; they are sloppy in areas of bowings, fingerings, and other notations; and, in general, they lack an intelligent approach. Greg Baker has satisfied all my objections to beginning fiddle books in his Book I of *The Fiddle Series*. He has had the patience to set down what beginning fiddlers need to and ought to know in the clearest way I've seen.

Designed for self, private, or group instruction, Book I of the series begins by offering points on overall technique and how to get started with helpful illustrations. Baker has taken what he considers the best from many different methods, including Suzuki and other classical approaches to the instrument. He offers, in addition to regular music notation, a unique tablature for fiddle which is very easy for the beginner to comprehend.

Baker's intelligent approach and sense of detail surfaces everywhere, such as his bowing directions, which are

Continued on Page 13



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Sept. 8 - Shindig In the Barn, Lancaster, PA with  
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Sept. 14 - Benton Harbor, Mich

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Sept. 22 - Hillsville, VA

Sept. 29 - Langley, Oklahoma

Sept. 30 - Powell, MO

Oct. 2 - Comer, GA

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THE PHIL SALAZAR BAND (805) 653-2380 [Ventura]

Every Tuesday in Sept. - Taco Grande, Ventura

Every Friday & Saturday in Sept. - Red Baron,  
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WESTERN PACIFIC (408) 427-3531 [Santa Cruz]

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2nd & 4th Sunday of each month, Ritz Club in  
Eureka 9-12

Sept. 20-21 - The Silver Lining Lounge, McKinleyville

Last Thursday of each month - Jambalaya Club in  
Arcata

Oct. 19-20 - The Branding Iron, Garberville

BILL WHITE (415) 530-7192 [Oakland]

VERN WILLIAMS BAND (209) 772-1357 [Valley Springs]

WINTERING SOUTH (503) 276-0640 [Pendleton, OR]

## **Winners at 3rd Annual Sierra Nevada Old-Time Fiddling Listed**

Winner of the championship division at the Quincy affair was Randy Pollard of Whitmore, CA. Second was Joey McKenzie of McMinnville, OR, 3rd - Carol Ann Wheeler, Sherwood, OR; 4 - Linda Relph, Chico; and 5th - Gary Moore, Quincy.

Grant Wheeler of Sherwood, OR was winner of the open division, followed by Kendra Ruwe, Tom Huber, Tiffany Wheeler and John McKinnon.

Senior division winners were Bill Yohey, McMinnville, OR., followed by Jim Pinkston, Howard Milligan, Jesse Hall, Cy Lovell.

Junior division winners were Tricia Brown, Linette Lane, Christine Crabill, Chadley Ruwe, and John Potosh.

Junior-Junior division winners were Ruston Ruwe, Danny Overholt, Amy Fontes, Theresa Hitchcock, and Martha Hitchcock.

Carol Anne & Grant Wheeler won the twin fiddle division, with second going to Joey McKenzie and Kendra Ruwe.

Chadley Ruwe won the Benny Thomasson Memorial Award of \$100.

Judges for the event were Delbert McGrath, Sam Sloan, and Shelley Johnson.

**RETAIL MUSIC STORE/WORKSHOP FOR SALE.** Includes lease, fixtures, inventory, lesson and recording studios. Living quarters attached to premises. Located in beautiful foothill town. For more information call or write: 409 Spring Street, Nevada City, CA 95959, (916) 265-9661.

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## **Advertising Rates**

Current rates for placing an advertisement in the **Bluegrass Breakdown** are as follows:

**Full Page -- \$80.00**

**Half Page -- \$50.00**

**Quarter Page -- \$30.00**

**Business Card -- \$15.00**

The size of the image area for a full page ad is 7¼ by 9¾; half page - 5 by 7½; quarter page 3½ by 5. Art work should be very clear black and white layout and all photos should be screened.

The current rates for classified ads are based on 3½ inches of typed copy and are as follows: \$3.00 for the first three lines and 50¢ for each additional line. Make checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association and send check and ad to:

Don Powell

Bluegrass Breakdown Editor

735 College Street

Woodland, CA 95695





# FIELD GUIDE TO WESTERN BANDS

---

**ARKANSAS SHEIKS** (707) 763-5447 [Petaluma]

**BERLINE, CRARY & HICKMAN** (213) 986-3791 [Van Nuys]

**BLT** (408) 378-3107 [San Jose]  
Mondays - The Mother Lode, Cupertino

**BLUE FLAME STRING BAND** (415) 535-2432 [San Francisco]

**BLUEGRASS MONARCHS** (408) 372-1461 [Pacific Grove]  
Fridays - Kalisa's, Cannery Row, Monterey

**BLUEGRASS ONE** (415) 364-6624 [Bay Area]  
Tuesdays - Paul's Saloon, San Francisco

**CHARLIE'S BAND** (Sawplayer Charlie Blacklock) (415) 523-4649 [Alameda]

**COUNTRY HAM** (415) 938-4221 [Walnut Creek]

**DR. CORN'S BLUEGRASS REMEDY** (503) 645-0575 [Portland, OR]

**8TH AVENUE STRING BAND** (916) 872-8536 [Chico]  
Aug. 31, Sept. 1-2 - Labor Day Grass Valley Festival

**FIDDLE DUSTERS** (707) 422-7838 [Fairfield]

**FINGER PICKIN' GOOD** (503) 474-2214 [Grants Pass, OR]

**FOGGY MOUNTAIN CLOGGERS** (415) 828-9016 [San Ramon]

**GOLD RUSH** (503) 266-5061 [Portland, OR]

**GOOD 'N' COUNTRY** (503) 686-9325 [Eugene, OR]

**GOOD OL' PERSONS** (415) 832-2176 [San Francisco]  
Friday's at Red Vest Pizza Parlor, El Cerrito  
Aug. 31, Sept. 1-2 - Grass Valley Labor Day Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley

**GRANT STREET STRING BAND** (415) 548-3021 [East Bay]

**GRASS MENAGERIE** (408) 358-1524 [San Jose]

**HEARTLAND**, (415) 935-9295 [Walnut Creek]  
Saturdays - Carrousel Pizza, Concord  
Sundays - Paul's Saloon, San Francisco

**HIGH COUNTRY** (415) 763-2580 [San Francisco]

When in town - Wednesdays and Fridays at Paul's Saloon

Aug. 31, Sept. 1-2 - Grass Valley Labor Day Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley

**HIGH MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS** (503) 779-2532 [Medford, OR]

**LOST HIGHWAY** (714) 826-9928 [San Bernardino]

**MOUNTAIN VIEW CLOGGERS** (209) 688-8809 [Tulare]

**MUSIC FARMERS** (209) 268-5202 [Fresno]

**NEW DONE GONE BAND** (415) 661-3518 [San Carlos]

**PAINT THE TOWN** (415) 661-0682 [San Francisco]

**RAY PARK** (714) 840-3146 [Huntington Beach]

**RYE GRASS STRING BAND** (503) 938-7403 [Milton Freewater, OR]

**ROGUE VALLEY BLUEGRASS BOYS** (503) 826-4927 [Medford, OR]

**SAWTOOTH MOUNTAIN BOYS** (503) 838-4095 [Monmouth, OR]

**SHOWDOWN** (415) 567-6112 [San Francisco]  
Tuesdays - Tucker's Tavern, Fairfax  
Saturdays - Onest Pizza, Alameda Southshore Mall  
Park & Otis Streets, Alameda

**SIDESADDLE** (408) 353-4408 [San Jose]  
Fridays - The Mother Lode, Cupertino  
Aug. 31-Sept. 2 - Grass Valley Bluegrass Festival  
Sept. 5 - Cowtown, San Jose  
Sept. 8 - New Almaden Days, Club Almaden, San Jose  
Sept. 8 - Down Under Saloon, San Jose  
Sept. 16 - La Honda Crafts Fair, La Honda  
Sept. 22 - Down Under Saloon, San Jose  
Sept. 29 - Down Under Saloon, San Jose  
Oct. 6 - Moraga Hall, Santa Cruz  
Oct. 13 - Down Under Saloon, San Jose

**SPRING MOUNTAIN HARMONY** (209) 784-8268 [Porterville]

**SUNNY SOUTH** (503) 281-9901 [Portland, OR]



designed with repeats in mind. Each tune has an informative introduction, and he doesn't miss a chance to nudge the student with tips and explanations.

At the end of the book are the words to the songs he has presented, a rhythm review, and an explanation of how to play backup. The backup information is particularly useful, and this backup theme is followed all the way through this book and the ones to come (Baker has an eight-book series in the works). I think this is the book's strongest point--giving the beginning a sense of how a tune might be varied, an understanding of basic chords, and an encouragement to explore simple backup right from the start. He takes away the mystique, for he is not just teaching fiddle tunes but fiddle performing.

A book is no substitute for a private instructor, who can correct, encourage and guide. As teachers, we must train ears and not fingers. Nevertheless, the accompanying tape goes a long way towards spanning that gap. A 60 minute cassette with tunes recorded at slow or moderate speeds in stereo with guitar on the left channel and fiddle on the right enables students to turn off the fiddle channel and practice along. Baker brings his own fiddle and guitar skills to bear here, with the assistance of another local musician, Chick Rose. Happy fiddling!

Persons wishing to purchase Book 1/Tape 1 of *The Fiddle Series* should contact Greg Baker Publications, P.O. Box 12230, Portland, OR 97212-0230 after checking with your local music store.

## Record Review

### The Bluegrass Cardinals

*Home Is Where The Heart Is* (Sugar Hill SH-3741)

Reviewed by Glenn Christensen

Those of you who have been reading my record reviews over the past several years will have noted that my preferences run toward traditional rather than modern or "progressive" bluegrass. Still, there are some progressive groups that are so outstanding, that I usually buy all their albums sight unseen (I guess that should be "sound unheard"). The Bluegrass Cardinals is one of these groups.

With the recent release of *Home Is Where The Heart Is*, the Cardinals have again proved that progressive bluegrass doesn't have to all be in 7th or augmented chords, nor does the singing have to be so scrubbed and polished as to sound like something you could punch into your Sony Squawk Box or whatever they call those computerized music-like instruments. Indeed, this album gets off to a rousing start with a "top-hit" type song, that should please all bluegrassers (check out the excellent guitar break). Next is a rather unexciting ballad and then a couple of up-dates of old well-known favorites. By the time we get to *Wicked Path of Sin*, we are ready for what the Cardinals do best: sing gospel.



## Bluegrass Social Event of the Year!

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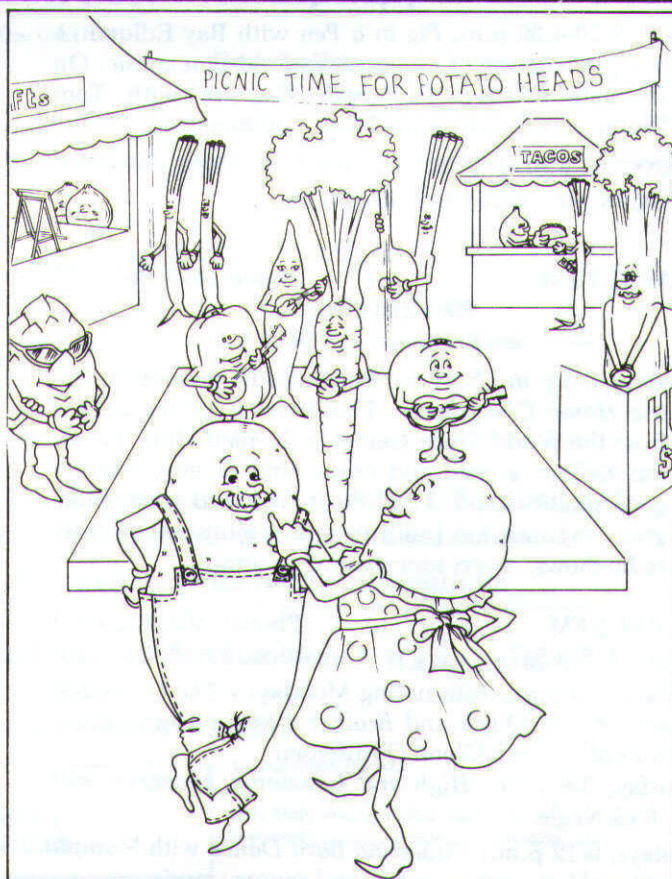
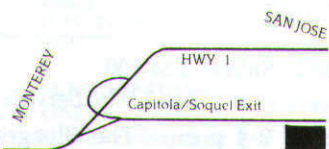
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or \*408/637-7810

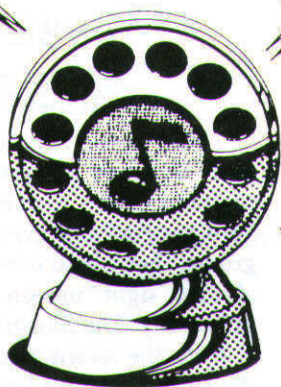
\* Sun., Mon. & Tues.





# Turn Your Radio On

Compiled by  
Barbara Whitaker



If you know of any other radio shows on the west coast that would be of interest to our readers, please send as much information as possible--especially the name and address of the station--to:

Barbara Stein Whitaker  
P.O. Box 882  
El Granada, CA 94018

## BAY AREA STATION

**KCSM 91.1 FM** Phone: (415) 574-6427  
1700 West Hillsdale Blvd.  
San Mateo, CA 94402

**Sundays, 12 Noon - 2 p.m.:** *Bay Area Bluegrass* - A variety of Bluegrass music, including taped segments of local and national live shows. Alternating hosts: Pete Lude & Barbara Whitaker.

**KPFA 94.1 FM** Phone: (415) 848-6767  
2207 Shattuck Ave.  
Berkeley, CA 94704

**Fridays, 2:30-4:30 p.m.** *Pig in a Pen* with Ray Edlund. A fine presentation of bluegrass and old time music. On alternate Fridays: *Panhandle Country* with Tom Diamant--western swing, blues, and Bluegrass.

**Sundays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.:** A variety of blues, Tex-Mex, Cajun, etc., with Chris Strachwitz.

**KALW 91.7 FM** Phone: (415) 648-1177  
2905 21st Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

**Saturdays, 3-5 p.m.:** National Public Radio presents *A Prairie Home Companion*. This show is broadcast live from the World Trade Center in St. Paul Minn. Garrison Keillor, a wild and crazy kind of guy, features good quality acoustic music [swing, old time, bluegrass, ragtime, etc.] in a format reminiscent of early radio shows. A very entertaining program.

**KKUP 91.5 FM** Phone: (408) 253-0303  
P.O. Box 547  
Cupertino, CA 95015

**Mondays, 6-9 p.m.:** Alternating Mondays - *The Quickstep* with Karen Quick and *Brother Glenn's Mostly Bluegrass Show* with Glenn Christensen.

**Saturday, 3-6 p.m.:** *High and Lonesome*, bluegrass with Rick Nagle.

**Sundays, 9-12 p.m.:** *Cupertino Barn Dance* with Stompin' Steve Hathaway--cowboy and country music.

**Mondays (alternating) 10 p.m.-2 a.m.:** *Indigeneous Folk-music and old time Bluegrass* with Ed Cirimele.

## STATIONS OUTSIDE THE BAY AREA

**KAZU 90.3 FM** Phone: (408) 375-3082  
P.O. Box 206  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

**Monday, 9-12 a.m.:** *Monday Morning Folk Show* with J.T. Mason.

**Tuesday, 9-12 a.m.:** *Folk Music Around the World*

**Wednesday, 9-12 a.m.:** *Pickin' in the wind* with Peter Figen

**Fridays, 9-12 a.m.:** *Singing Stone*--traditional and contemporary folk music with Rick Wolter.

**KBOO 90.7 FM** Phone: (503) 231-8032  
20 S.E. 8th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97214

**Wednesday, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.:** *Music From the True Vine*. Traditional and contemporary bluegrass. Alternating hosts are Jim Seafeldt, Dave Elliott, Caroline Skinner, and Michael O'Rourke. On occasion, live bluegrass.

**KCBX 90.1 FM** Phone: (805) 541-1295  
1026 Chorro Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

**Thursday, 8-10 p.m.:** *Basicly Bluegrass* with host Duane English.

**KCVR 1570 AM** Phone: (209) 368-0626  
Box 600  
Lodi, CA 95241

**Saturday 11:45 a.m.:** All gospel show with host Bill Robertson. Tune-in for outstanding music.

**KCHJ 101 A.M.** Phone: (805) 725-8676  
Avenue 16 & Road 112, Delano, CA 93215

**Daily 11:05 a.m.:** *The Bluegrass Show* with Richard Swanson. Recorded and Live Bluegrass for approximately one hour.

**KERG - Sterero FM 100** Telephone: (707) 923-2052  
Box 7, Garberville, CA 95440

**Sundays 2-4 p.m.:** "The Bluegrass Show" with host Ron Stanley - bluegrass and bluegrass gospel

**KHSU 90.5 FM** Phone: (707) 826-4805  
Humboldt State University



Arcata, CA 95521

**Fridays, 9-12 a.m.:** Bluegrass show

**Thursdays, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.:** Folk music with Doug the Jitterbug.

**Tuesdays, 1-4 p.m.:** Folk and international music with Doug the Jitterbug.

**KKIO AM** Phone: (805) 963-5896  
1919 State Street  
Santa Barbara, CA

**Daily - 7:40 - 8 a.m.:** Bluegrass show with host Doug Toews

**KNPR 89.5 FM**  
5151 Boulder Highway  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89122

**Sundays, 2-5 p.m.:** *The Bluegrass Express* hosted by Don Lanning, Tom Flagg, Marty Warburton and Butch Baldassari of the Southern Nevada Bluegrass Society.

**KLOO 106 FM** Phone: (503) 753-4493  
1221 S.W. 15th St.  
Corvallis, Oregon

**Sunday, 8:30-9:** *Bluegrass Show*. They also play bluegrass in their regular format.

**KQED 88.5 FM** Phone: (415) 553-2129  
500 8th Street  
San Francisco

**Saturday, 6 p.m.:** A Prairie Home Companion.

### KUOP 91.3 FM

3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton, CA 95211

**Saturdays, 6-12 a.m.:** Saturday morning folk and bluegrass with Michael Bryant.

**Saturdays, 7-9 p.m.:** *A Prairie Home Companion*--see KALW for description.

**KUNR 88.7 FM** Phone: (702) 784-6591  
University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada

**Saturdays, 3:05-5 p.m.:** *Life's Other Side* with Mike Reed.

**Sundays 3-6 p.m.:** *Home Brothers Radio Show*

**KUSP 88.9 FM 90.3 translator** Phone: (408) 476-2800  
P.O. Box 423, Santa Cruz, CA 95061

**Sundays 3-6 p.m.:** *Down on the Pataphysical Farm* with Leigh Hill [acoustic country music]

**KVMR 89.5 FM** Phone: (916) 265-9555  
P.O. Box 328, Nevada City, CA 95959

**Monday, alternate weeks, 1-3 p.m.:** *Trail Mix* with Don Craddock

**Wednesday, 8-9 p.m.:** *Downhome Country* with Terry Meekins

**Friday, 10-11 p.m.:** *You Get What You Play For* with Paul Quackenbush

**Saturday, alternate weeks, 10 a.m.-Noon:** *The Bluegrass Show* with Tim Quackenbush

**Saturday, Noon-2 p.m.:** *Country Music* with T.J. & Annie

## California Bluegrass Association Membership Application

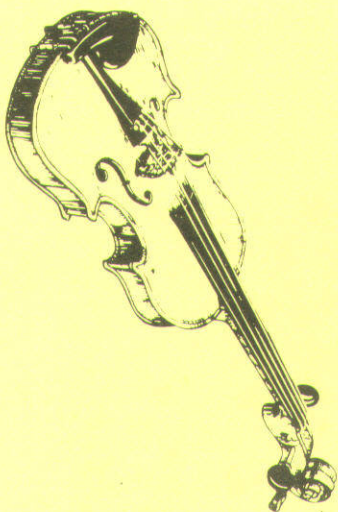
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Spouse's Name		SINGLE - \$10.00	<b>Bands of 3 to 7 members may join at the CBA Band Rate. Write for more information to the address below. Send check or money order for membership to: Treasurer California Bluegrass Association P.O. Box 11287 San Francisco, CA 94101-7287</b>	
Children (Name & Birthday)		SPOUSE - \$2.50		
AGES 12-18 (Non-voting)		CHILDREN- Non-Voting 12-18 (each) - \$1.00		
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