



breakdown



B Section - Reviews and special features

San Francisco Bluegrass

Special report: October was a testament to the exciting bluegrass scene in San Francisco. The city that was home to Paul's Saloon is re-emerging as one of the bluegrass capitals of the west.

The CBA Golden Gate Park Picking party - First ever event a big success

By Chuck Poling

The burgers were sizzling on the grill, the music was just as hot and the sun was shining. For a while, anyway. But the many folks who came to CBA-sponsored pickin' picnic in Golden Gate Park on September 23rd had a good time despite the fog crashing the party.

Actually it wasn't too bad. It wasn't windy and the fog thickness factor was only about a 3 on a scale of 10. Did you know that, as Eskimos are reputed to have for snow, native San Franciscans have over 50 words for fog? But most of them can't be printed here in this nice family publication.

Jeanie and I were very encouraged by the turnout of 50 - 60 people who brought their instruments, voices and yes, their food to a very well stocked potluck. Come to think of it, I don't think I've ever been to a potluck pickin' party of any kind that I left hungry. Just seems everybody wants to make a good impression. Whoever made that guacamole, my hat's off to

you.

We reserved our favorite little grove in the east end of the park, which was perfect for an event of this kind. There was enough room for 3 or 4 separate jams going simultaneously without their sounds overlapping each other. And, gee howdy, did we have some Dobro players. At least five, maybe six. And they tended to group together, in a pack. Some good pickin', I'll

Continued on B-3



Fiddling beauty
Mayumi Urgino

Photo by Karen Van Maastricht



The CBA Golden Gate Park picking party drew a nice crowd

Photo by Karen Van Maastricht

Also in the B section...

Bluegrassin' in the Foothills 2006 reviews

Wolf Mountain 2006 review

Brenda Hough's album reviews

More reviews...

The CBA calendar



Tony Trischka

Photo by Andy Agardy

The 2006 Hardly Strictly festival - The "strictly" was good as it gets

By Ted Silverman

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass puts on some of the greatest working roots music acts in the business but also creates an insurmountable challenge to fans, as it is impossible to be at five stages at one time. Choices must be made. The logistic challenge of getting around becomes more daunting as time passes and the park packs up with onlookers. At HSB the early bird truly catches the worm. Those who have easy and early access to the meadow stages and can set up tarps maintain an advantage over the casual fans...

Friday I caught Jimmie Dale Gilmore with Butch Hancock and special guest Bill Kirchen of Commander Cody fame. This was a fun set. The Blue Angels fly-over accompanied the anti-war subject matter of some of Jimmie and Butch's music.

Elvis Costello's set was an incredible Honky Tonk gem featuring tunes from Merle Haggard, Hank Williams, and other roots music giants. With Austin Delone on accordion and piano and Bill Kirchen on telecaster this was a terrific assemblage for the material performed by Elvis.

Continued on B-2



Keystone Station:
Dave Earl, Larry Carlin
and Claudia Hampe



Earl!

Photo by Darby Brandli

Hardly Strictly 2006 - a review

Continued from B-1

Late in the set Emmy Lou Harris joined Costello for a few choice duets including Bouledeux Bryant's "Love Hurts." The final portion of the day featured guest shots by Gillian Welch and David Rawlings on Bob Dylan's, "When I Paint My Masterpiece."

Saturday, being the first full length day of the festival I chose to

lowed by a hot version of Old Joe Clark with Ron telling the tale of his childhood anti-racist upbringing wherein he defied the racists in his community near Clinch Mountain, VA and learned nearly all he was to learn about singing in pitch and having perfect timing from his black neighbors, one of whom taught him about honky tonks and how to hambone. His Hambone skills are clearly as sharp as ever

hind the Bad Livers and while we expected another dose of banjo we got instead a rockabilly and swamp rock infused hour of power trio music mixed with blues. One hour of this stuff was definitely not enough to satisfy.

Wandering through the ever increasing throng to our tarp near the soundboard of the banjo stage we were entertained by a great set from Earl Scruggs and Friends. Last years set was heavily hampered by cool weather and a recent experience at the Rockygrass Festival left me feeling as if Earl was getting too old to tune his banjo. But this set took place in gorgeous, cloudless 80 degree weather and the whole set shined with spirit and skill. With Bryan Sutton and John Randall sharing vocal and acoustic guitar duties, Brad Davis on telecaster and mandolin, Rob Ikes on dobro, Gary Scruggs emceeding and playing bass and Earl in fine form this was a beautifully performed hour of classic bluegrass music that left us wanting more.

The day's penultimate banjo stage act was Gillian Welch and David Rawlings whose booking on the biggest stage of the festival seemed to finally make the most sense. In years past on smaller stages the crowd would assemble in unmanageable numbers. Welch and Rawlings proved they are as capable of entertaining in the corner of a dive bar as they are a football arena sized crowd. There is some sort of tangible but secret magic happening between these two performers and they didn't fail to inject some of this special mojo on the audience. At one point in the set they went far off course with a wonderful cover of the Hunter/Garcia chestnut, "China Doll." Their choice and delivery of this tune made it an instant classic. By the conclusion of their set the crowd was begging for more but the exigency of staying on festival schedule forced the conclusion of this magnificent set.

Steve Earle and Bluegrass Dukes, with Tim O'Brien on mandolin Casey Driessen on fiddle, Dennis Crouch on bass fiddle and Darryl Scott handling dobro and banjo was an apt capper to this fantastic day of music. With salient political lyric content and exceptional musicianship blended with the sarcastic wit and the built in rage of Steve Earle this bluegrass for the 21st century really hits a homer every time they are at the plate. Steve Earle can do no wrong in this left coast community and his set, his players and his songs were musical nutrition to this hungry audience.

On Sunday I made what I consider to be a bad judgment call (in retrospect) as I decided with the ever increasing crowd to park it at the Arrow Stage. I've seen a lot of Del McCoury, Ricky Skaggs and Tim O'Brien but in exchange I got a bunch of fairly lame music from Richie Furay (of the Buffalo Springfield and Poco), who's set

had some recognizable 40 year old chestnuts but the band was ridiculously loud and extremely hardly instead of strictly. The swirly faux psychedelia of the Flying Other Brothers was ok but we toodled off for a few choice moments of Tim O'Brien and Cornbread Nation with Casey Driessen and Danny Barnes.

The first act of the day at the arrow stage was Ramblin' Jack Elliot was intriguing more for his stories than his musicianship. But this guy's spirit comes through in a huge way and he was very warmly received.

T Bone Burnett had Mike Compton on mandolin, Stuart Duncan on fiddle and Dennis Crouch on Bass. A better band you could not ask for. But it was clear from the get go that A) they didn't rehearse and B) T Bone was mailing it in by reading charts and not really knowing, or owning any of the music. And when I say own I mean having it internalized. Which he didn't.

Acoustic Hot Tuna was the class act of the day with Jorma and Jack performing a stellar set of old time blues, Jimmy Rodgers, Louvin Brothers and other great music in warm sunshine with the amazing Barry Mitterhoff making sparks fly on mandolin and tenor guitar. This was deeply satisfying stuff made even better by the incredible weather and the deep San Francisco connections of Jorma and Jack.

The last act of the day at the Arrow Stage was San Francisco's hardest working amplified roots band, The Waybacks with special guest Bob Weir of the Grateful Dead. This set was very popular and well

performed but it was clear as the set progressed that while the Waybacks were paying their respects to the Grateful Dead's music and legacy, Bob Weir was less the captain of this ship than was James Nash who's guitar skills and musicianship dominated these events. Not much in the way of pure bluegrass was played but things got grassy with Johnny Cash's "Big River."

Late in the set Gillian Welch and David Rawlings joined the band for a well played version of "Dire Wolf," with Rawlings chiming in on a few verses and some well picked leads.

Really going off the strictly format the assemblage (sans Rawlings and Welch) did an interesting seamless medley of Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir," followed by "St. Stephen." The encore featured all involved taking turn on the versed of Bob Dylan's, "Like a Rolling Stone," with Welch and Rawlings doing some great vocal harmonies on a verse of two.

The end of this Sunday Festival day was a great deal more entertaining than most of what occurred on the arrow stage through the day but the logistical challenge of 5 stages and hundreds of thousands of roots music fans prevents this correspondent from providing much more news from a bluegrass angle.

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<http://www.WorldWideTed.com>



Kathy Kallick, Carl Pagter, Peter Thompson and Karen Noel mingled with the masses in GG Park.

Photo by Darby Brandli

stick close to the Banjo Stage as it seemed to present the most bang for the, well, no bucks were spent, but the talent presented at the festival's flagship stage seemed to be the most potent to these ears. Things started off with a gentle, but highly melodic bang featuring the Nashville Bluegrass Band. With guys like fiddler Stuart Duncan and mandolin giant Mike Compton alongside the steady banjo talent of Alan O'Bryant and the fantastic vocal skills of rhythm guitarist Pat Enright this band has nearly all anyone could ask for in a bluegrass band. The NBB emphasized a lot of Bill Monroe music in their set with tunes like "Road to Columbus," and "Dark as the Night, Blue as the Day." They also featured a very authentic rendition of the Mississippi Sheiks, "Sitting On Top of the World." This set was a terrific start to a great day with tons of vocal harmonies and tight instrumental exchanges between Compton, Duncan and Enright.

A quick diversion to the Arrow stage brought us a very entertaining set by the Dry Branch Fire Squad featuring the comedic onstage banter of Ron Thomason. Ron sets the stagecraft bar high with hilarious homespun asides about his childhood, twisted grammatical puns and political observations couched in tongue in cheek metaphors. He's a damn fine musician as well who can pick the snot out of a mandolin or guitar. His sidemen are an extremely capable bunch but Thomason is truly a one-man gang of entertainment. He concluded the set with a terrific solo mandolin number about going to war fol-

and the set was concluded with an exclamation point of ham boning hilarity.

Venturing back to the main stage for a heaping helping of banjo we caught the tail end of the Allison Brown Quartet's set with Joe Craven stepping away from the fiddle to play an improvised duet with Allison by banging on the head of her banjo. The ABQ is a deft and skillful bunch and their music is infused with a disparate mixture of influences that range from Scruggsian rolls to the fusion jazz of Pat Matheny. This stuff would be more at home aired on the light jazz station KKSJ than on any root music show.

The Banjo Extravaganza featuring Tony Trishcka, Bill Evans and Alan Munde performed a great many banjo solos, duets and trios backed by a group of extremely capable side men including fiddler, Chad Manning, guitarist Jim Nunnally (both of the David Grisman Bluegrass Experience among other bands), mandolin player Steve Smith and bassist Cindy Brown. The tone and power of these three skillful banjo players had huge impact on the listening audience and left us in rapt, entertained awe for a solid hour. And this was remarkable mostly because not a single song was sung. This was pure instrumental entertainment of a very high quality nature.

A quick trip uphill to the porch stage helped clear some banjo out of our ears with a terrific and aggressive set of punkish, electric honky tonk music featuring the Danny Barnes Collective. Danny was the seminal leading talent be-



CBA director and Supergrass poohbah, Hal Johnson with a couple of hot San Francisco chicks.

Photo by Darby Brandli

The CBA Golden Gate Park Picking party

Continued from B-1

tell you.

Lots of CBA regulars showed up, like Bob Waller of High Country and The Circle R Boys, bassmeister Steve Swan and the Homespun Rowdy posse came by. Mark and Marty Varner were there and I noticed how tourists passing by would stop to listen in as Marty took a solo. Pam (Belle Monroe) Brandon was on hand, showing her versatility on guitar, bass and fiddle.

While I was running the grill, Jeanie was busy signing up members for the CBA, part of our nefarious plan to establish a higher profile for the organization in San Francisco. There certainly are a lot fans and musicians of bluegrass and old-time music here in the city and

we're hoping to get more people involved in the CBA. Our theory is that there are just so many fish in this particular barrel, we've got to be able to hit a few of them.

Our thanks to Madame President Darby Brandli for providing us with a big ole CBA banner to string up, adding a sense of decorum and officialdom to the proceedings.

The last group of pickers jammed away, picking their little fingers off till after 8 PM, when it started getting too dark to see. That's just one more reason we love bluegrass.

Hopefully, we'll look back at this as the First Annual Golden Gate Pickin Picnic in a long series to come.



One of many rocking jamming circles



Ted Silverman, Marty Varner, Norm Van Maastricht and Eric Embry

All photos Karen Van Maastricht



Homespun Rowdy's Dave Walker and Richard Wagner



Chase (Charlie) Brown and GG Picking Party hostess Jeanie Poling



GG Picking Party host Chuck Poling



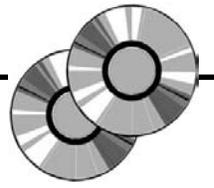
Larry Cohea - always a pleasure!



San Francisco Folk Clubber and Hootenanny honcho Richard Rice

RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough



The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience: DGBX

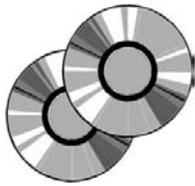
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Song list: I'm Rollin On, Baby Blue Eyes, Engine 143, The Baltimore Fire, Rubens Train, Dream of the Miner's Child, Dawggy Mt. Breakdown, Rock Hearts, Say Won't You Be Mine, You'll Be A Lost Ball, Down The Road, Old and in the Way, Are You Afraid to Die?, There Ain't Nobody Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone.

David Grisman is one of the stellar mandolinists playing today and while he has popularized and led the way with the contemporary Dawgrass music, his roots and heart are still with bluegrass. David has assembled a bluegrass band with his son Samson on bass and some of the Bay Area's top musicians that play music close to the roots of the bluegrass music. Dawg of course plays mandolin with crisp lead breaks and the background chop so essential to bluegrass rhythm. Jim Nunally's fluid lead guitar playing is an undercurrent to all the songs and his vocals blend easily with Keith Little's. Keith's banjo playing has the punchy rhythm that gives the drive to the songs. Chad Manning's fiddle glides in and out of the instrumental mix and has a rich sustain that bridges the lead

breaks. Samson Grisman proves that musical talent runs in the family with his steady bass rhythm and several bass solos on the album.

The band's songs include the traditional "I'm Rolling On" first popularized by the Monroe Brothers. They also perform Carter Stanley's "Say Won't You Be Mine," Flatt and Scruggs' "Down the Road" and Jimmy Martin's "You'll Be A Lost Ball." "Dawggy Mountain Breakdown" is the popular Car Talk radio program theme and the banjo, mandolin and fiddle all give the song a solid rendition. "Rubens Train" has plenty of hot mandolin licks, fiddle trills, guitar and banjo breaks that will thrill any bluegrass fan. While this is the band's first album, fans should have to start wearing t-shirts with "Are You Experienced?" as soon as they've attended a concert. (PS, guys – send me one in gray!)



High Country: The First 25 Years

Big Chicken Records
PO Box 10414
Oakland, CA 94610
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www.highcountrybluegrass.com

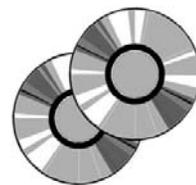
Song List: Hello City Limits, Blue Night, I Cried Again, There's An Old, Old House, Pow-wow, Big River, Have Mercy on Me, Virginia Waltz, Little Rabbit, Cold Hard Rain, Dreams, I'm Bringing Home Good News, Lonesome Moonlight Waltz, Where The Soul of Man Never Dies, Pain in My Heart, In the City, Don't This Road Look Like and Rocky, A Lonesome Highway, Blues for Your Own, Love Is A Summer Rose, Big Hendy Grove, Home to Me, Say You Only Will Be Mine, Who's That Knocking At My Door?, Footprints in the Snow, Battle Mountain, Heaven Here on Earth, Blue Highway, I'll Remember You in My Prayers, Arachnid, A Voice On The Wind, Donner Pass, My Brown-Eyed Darlin', Dark Side of the Road, Long Hollow Getaway, Left Here Alone, The Long Road, Rain and Snow, BART by Night, Highway of Pain, Number Two Express, Beyond the Fields of Home, Redwood Country, Sunset on the Prairie.

Bluegrass bands are like marriages, long lasting ones are hard to find. So when you discover one, stop and appreciate their unique qualities. High Country is one of those long lasting bands, and it has been playing its own style of traditional bluegrass in the Bay Area for over 38 years. The band has had seven albums and as Sandy Rothman states in the liner notes "in this compilation we find vocal solos, duets, trios, and quartets, male and female voices; original compositions and standards; instrumental pieces; twin (harmony) mandolins and fiddles; dobro, lead guitar pieces and solos." Like the ultimate buffet restaurant, the band has a variety of styles and flavors and everything is well blended and tasty.

Butch Waller is one of the band's cofounders and he remains as the pivotal player in the band along with long time banjo player Larry Cohea. Their mandolin and banjo playing give the band that hard driving percussive sound that powers the bluegrass sound. The band's high quality singer/guitar players over the years have included Chris Boutwell, Rich Wilbur, Dave Thompson, Keith Little and Steve Pottier. The first album was recorded in 1971 with Butch, Rich Wilbur, Ed Neff on fiddle, Bruce Nemerov on banjo and Lonny Feiner on bass. The popular "Hello City Limits" and "Blue Night" are on this album along with Johnny Cash's "Big River" and "There's An Old Old House" from George Jones via a version by Bill Monroe. Ed switches to mandolin to play a twin mandolin version of Bill Monroe's "Lonesome Moonlight Waltz" with Butch Waller that is stunning in its tone.

The band was one of the first to play Del McCoury's early songs

and also covered songs from Jesse McReynolds and Flatt and Scruggs. Butch Waller also developed his talents as a songwriter and his "Blues For Your Own" has become a Bay Area classic song. Butch wrote 13 of the 44 songs on the album and his instrumentals are top notch as well. Butch's mandolin playing is in the Monroe mold and the instrumental compositions have the melodic versatility and high energy tremolo that match any tune that the master wrote. While a part of High Country, Keith Little played guitar and sang the lead vocals and was part of the vocal trios with Larry and Butch. Multi-instrumentalist Steve Pottier played bass for many years but his lead guitar work shines on his own compositions, "Donner Pass" and "B.A.R.T. By Night." Jim Mintun's inclusion in the band gave High Country a new instrumental sound with his dobro playing and Jim's high lonesome tenor adds a new vocal range that graces the Del McCoury song, "Rain and Snow," and yodel-enriched "Sunset on the Prairie." The current band features Butch and Larry, along with Butch's brother Bob on guitar, Tom Bekeny on fiddle, Jim Mintun on dobro and vocals, and Glen Dauphin on bass. This band continues to evolve and add new material to its performances while keeping the great traditional bluegrass sound in the Bay Area alive.



David Davis and the Warrior River Boys: Troubled Times

Rebel Records
PO Box 7405
Charlottesville, VA 22906
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www.daviddavisandwrb.com

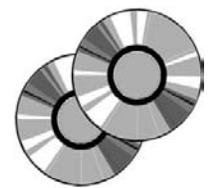
Song list: The Ballad of Sarah Malone, Chancellorsville, The River Ran Black, Milwaukee Blues, Jake Satterfield, Filling the River With Tears, Muddy Water, Lonesome Whistle, John Henry Jr., Evening Prayer Blues, Willow Valley, A House of Gold.

David Davis grew up in a family of musicians in Alabama. His Uncle Cleo had been one of the first Blue Grass Boys in 1938, and his uncles and father sung in the brother style of early country music.

David's powerful voice and Monroe-style mandolin playing make him the natural leader for the band, but band mates Marty Hays on bass, Adam Duke on guitar, Daniel Grindstaff on banjo, and

Owen Saunders on fiddle blend their voices and instruments to embellish each song in a timeless musical setting.

Not content to sing mindless songs of loves lost and found, the band has chosen songs with timeless stories that make the listener look beyond the story and find some gem of wisdom or point to ponder. "Chancellorsville" is a perfect example of the band's quality. The song begins with David's strong mandolin lead, joined by Daniel's banjo and Owen's fiddle blending to set the mood. David's heartfelt vocal recounts the story of the epic Civil War battle and the heroic deeds of Stonewall Jackson who was killed at the end of the battle from a accidental Southern bullet. The fiddle and banjo continue to build alongside the story and Owen's fiddle adds ominous tones to the climax with a dying soldier lamenting that "with one bullet I cut down the south." The days of King Coal and the hard life of the miners are relived with "The River Ran Black." David, Marty and Adam sing "Filling The River With Tears" and Hank Williams' "I Heard That Lonesome Whistle" in the classic vocal trio format. The band puts on its hard-driving shoes with a spirited rendition of Merle Travis' "John Henry Jr." and then follows it with "Evening Prayer Blues" with David's mandolin tremolo followed by Owen's sonorous fiddle, Daniel's melodic banjo and Adam's flatpicked guitar. When folks ask if anyone plays bluegrass they way it used to be played, just tell them to find the Warrior River Boys!



The Circle R Boys: Rare Bluegrass Recordings

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www.CircleRBoys.com

Song List: Rock Island Line, You're Not Easy To Forget, Foggy Mountain Top, Dark Hollow, Birth of the Blues, Today Has Been A Lonesome Day, I Might Take You Back Again, Sugar Coated Love, Iron Curtain, Old Swinging Bridge, Walkin' Down The Line, I Dreamed Of an Old Love Affair, I Am A Pilgrim, Down by the Riverside.

Once upon a time there was a band called the Knott Brothers

Continued on B-5

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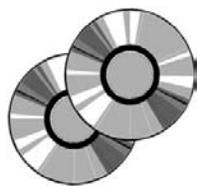
RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough

Continued from B-4

but they had a problem because there were two Knott bands. Our hardy group of non-siblings rejected Knott Sisters as the new band name, and in honor of the symbol that represents trademarks, they became the Circle R Boys. But the brand new name doesn't mark a drift to Tumbling Tumbleweeds and Cool Water cowboy songs, this band is bluegrass true and blue.

This debut album features the band's traditional vocal harmonies and fine instrumental skills. The Boys are Bob Waller on guitar and vocals, Steve Pottier on mandolin and vocals, Paul Bernstein on banjo and vocals and Josh Hadley on bass and vocals. The vocals are strong and well blended in "The Old Swinging Bridge" and "Today Has Been A Lonesome Day." "Walkin' Down The Line" is the old Bob Dylan tune, and Steve's crisp mandolin lead flows easily into an interchange with Paul's banjo. Bob Waller's strong lead guitar adds sparkle to "I Dreamed of An Old Love Affair," and the Merle Travis classic, "I Am A Pilgrim." Carter Family fans will enjoy the instrumental banjo, guitar and mandolin interludes on "Foggy Mountain Top." Corral a copy of this CD from one of the band's Bay Area shows.



**New River Line:
Chasing My Dreams**
Kindred Records
65 Scott Hill Road
Irvine, KY 40336
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www.kindredrecords.com
www.newriverlinebluegrass.com

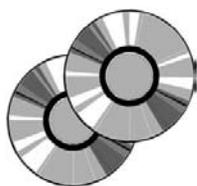
Song list: Tell Me Something I Ain't Heard Before, Scorcher Carroll's Farm, My Brother Paul and Me, Do You Think He'll Like My Style? Another Man's Wife, The Roof Is Coming Down, Father's Family Tree, Crazy Horse, Another Love Gone Bad, Chasing My Dreams Down The Road, Good To See The Homeplace Once Again, Leaving Blues.

New River Line hails from the bluegrass state of Kentucky and while this is the band's first album, their combined experiences in the music business and a gift for writing songs gives this band a bright future. Dave Carroll and Ronnie King are the main songwriters and Dave, Ronnie and dobro player Jerry Chaney sing the vocal trios for the group. Completing the

band are banjo player Josh Hymer and bass player Mike Parker. Their vocals have a smooth blend and the instrumentation is tight and totally supportive of the songs. The songs touch the standard bluegrass themes of home, family, love, farms and mines but have enough depth of meaning to be played again and again.

Guitarist Dave Carroll has seven songs on the album, and his fine sense of melody and wordcraft give his songs an appeal that has already attracted the attention of other bands. His "Leaving Blues" has the bounce of bluegrass favorite "In The Gravelyard," and the band embellishes the song with dobro trills, banjo, and mandolin. David has also written songs about the comings and goings of lovers in relationships: "Tell Me Something I Ain't Heard Before" and "Another Man's Wife" are cheating hearts songs from opposite viewpoints. His "Scorcher Carroll's Farm" and "Good to See the Homeplace Once Again" touch that other bluegrass theme: family and home.

Mandolin player Ronnie King contributed 4 songs. His "My Brother Paul and Me" is a Civil War song with two brothers on opposing sides. The poignant line "I'll die before I fight my brother Paul" underscores the dilemma of the soldiers whose loyalties were divided throughout the war. Ron Stewart's fiddle and Jerry's dobro and Ronnie's strong guitar lead give the song its mournful mood. Dave and Ronnie wrote "The Roof Is Coming Down" together and "grab what you can, get out of the mine, the roof is coming down" reminds us of the dangers in coal mining. Looks like the band may not need to be "chasing my dreams" – this album is a winner!



New Found Road: Life in a Song
Rouder Records
One Camp Street
Cambridge, MA 02140
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www.rouder.com
www.newfoundroad.com

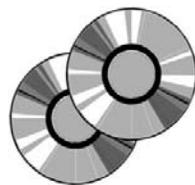
Song list: Cold Blue Day, Douglas Graves, Handsome Molly, Nothing's Missing, Life in a Song, In My Sleep, I Miss You, A Picture of Your Mother, No Clue, When I Get Home Before the Next Teardrop Falls, Leave My Woman Alone, Houston.

You can really tell when a band has nailed a song; you reach for the replay button to hear the song

again. New Found road has found a groove that works with any song. The carefully crafted vocal harmonies soar and blend and the instrumental passages flow in and out of the songs with precision and delightful tone.

Rob Baker (mandolin), Tim Shelton (guitar), and Jr. Williams (banjo) are three powerful singers whose harmonies made this band a popular gospel group in its first two recordings. The blend is perfect in the gospel song "When I Get Home," and Rob and Tim join Sonya Issacs in the contemporary look at a couple too busy with their own lives to think about love and a family – "Nothing's Missing."

The album opens with Tim Stafford's "Cold Blue Day" and Tim's lead vocal is joined by Jr. and Rob, and Jr.'s banjo plies with Rob's mandolin for that hard driving sound. The title cut, "Life In A Song," was written by Rob and Jim Van Cleve adds some soulful fiddle to the song that runs the gamut of song topics from faithful dogs, prisons and sleeping in canyons. The band rolls out the chops in the high-powered instrumental, "No Clue." "Leave My Woman Alone" is a Ray Charles tune that the band grassifies into a banjo, fiddle and mandolin powerhouse. It's worth the price of admission on its own. The sentimental "Houston, I'm Comin' To See You" has Rob Ickes joining in on resonator guitar and the gorgeous harmonies sound like the old rock band America. Gotta love this album!



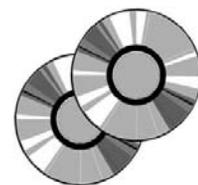
Copper River Band
www.copperriverband.com
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Song list: East Virginia Blues, Who's That Knocking At My Door, Many A Mile, Black Diamond, Aragon Mill, Wild Bill Jones, Don't Lie To Me, Say Won't You Be Mine, Little White Church, Suzanne, Alley Cat, No Mother or Dad, This Weary Heart, Tennessee Waltz

Copper River is an Arizona-based band with some talented members who have many years of experience with bluegrass bands across the country. Banjo player John Thompson had played with Red Allen in the 1970s and his rhythmic playing gives the band a strong, hard driving sound. Bass player Bob Denoncourt has been in bluegrass bands since 1967 when he joined the Cedar Mountain Boys in Rhode Island. Jim Govern

switched from guitar to mandolin in the 1970s and his crisp licks and fills add to the strong bluegrass sound of the band. Thomas Porter is the newest member of the group and his vocal harmonies complete the vocal trios and his guitar playing shows inventive licks and fills.

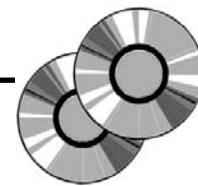
"Alley Cat" is the only instrumental on the album, but it showcases John's ease with writing a bouncy, infectious tune that showcases the banjo accompanied by mandolin and guitar. The band has mastered the traditional harmony blends and they've adapted songs by Flatt and Scruggs, Carter Stanley and the Carter Family with equal ease. Red Allen's "Don't Lie To Me" has the perfect combination of old style singing and phrasing with strong guitar and bass rhythm following the banjo lead instrumentals. Like a favorite pair of shoes, the band's sound is comfortable and familiar and a good listen for traditional bluegrass fans.



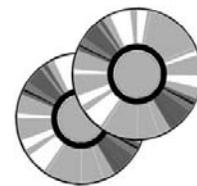
Ivan Rosenberg and Mike Conroy: The Old Spinning Wheel
Conroy Digital Sound Studio
Conner MT.
406-821-3777
©2006
www.ivanrosenberg.com

Song list: Preparation G, Maiden's Prayer, Kentucky Waltz, The Old Spinning Wheel, Dobro Waltz, Shook Mountain Hop, Midnight on the Water, Sugarloaf Mountain, Shenandoah Waltz, Down in the Willow Garden, Evening Prayer Blues, Turkey Knob, Strolling Along, In The Garden.

Maybe you remember the old movies with the long dance scenes. The couple glides across the floor and their movements to the music are graceful and perfectly in unison. That beautiful synchronicity is matched here with Mike Conroy's Monteleone mandolin and Ivan Rosenberg's Clinesmith resonator guitar. The duo has selected some wonderfully melodic tunes and their rendition of Bill Monroe's "Kentucky Waltz" and "Midnight on the Water" have the listener ready to waltz across the ballroom. Mike's "Shook Mtn. Hop" has a great bounce and verve, and Ivan's dobro adds a resounding bass response to balance the punchy mandolin treble notes. Their "Evening Prayer Blues" is a lovely stress reducer and worth



playing over and over after a hard day at work. A great "feel good" album and a worthy one for playing during long commutes in the car!



Jim Lauderdale: Bluegrass
Yep Roc Records
PO Box 4821
Chapel Hill, NC 27515
www.yeproc.com
©2006

Song list: Mighty Lonesome, Time's A Looking Glass, I'm Still Living For You, I Shouldn't Want You So Bad, Who's Leaving Who, Forever Ends Today, Love in the Ruins, There Goes Bessie Brown, It Wasn't That I Had To, It's So Different, My Treasure, Don't Blame The Wrong Guy, Where They Turn Around.

Jim Lauderdale gained his fame in the bluegrass world with his earlier work with Ralph Stanley, and his latest releases feature his two musical passions: country and bluegrass. This bluegrass album includes some of Jim's newest songs with a fine collection of instrumentalists: Bryan Sutton on guitar, Dennis Crouch or Jay Weaver on bass, Jason Stuart or David Talbot on banjo, Randy Kohrs on dobro and harmony vocals, Jesse Cobb or Josh Williams on mandolin, and - Shad Cobb or Luke Bula on fiddle. It's an all-star cast and the dobro, guitar and mandolin provide some fitting settings for Jim's brand of time-worn bluegrass love songs.

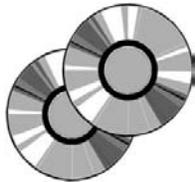
Jim has a way of packing his lyrics with clear images and twists of words that pull the listener into the song. The opening cut begins with a pulsating banjo joined by dobro and fiddle that give the song a good time feeling even though the singer is lamenting "it's mighty lonesome without you here." In "Who's Leaving Who" he proclaims "something is wrong with this scene" and decides "I don't know if I'm leaving you or if you're leaving me." "Forever Ends Today" is a dear John letter delivered with a nostalgic waltz tempo that could easily grace any country artist's album. "There Goes Bessie Brown" has the eerie feel of ghost legends in the hollers and hills. Randy Kohr's dobro and

Continued on B-6

RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough

Jason Stewart's banjo embellish the haunting tone of the song. There's an obligatory train song, "Where They Turn Around," that ends the album with a satisfying mandolin and banjo stand off. Jim won a Grammy for 2002's *Lost in the Lonesome Pines* for Bluegrass Album of the Year, and this album could get him another one.



**Valerie Smith and
Liberty Pike: Wash
Away Your Troubles**
Bell Buckle Records
PO Box 298
Bell Buckle, TN 37020
©2006
www.bellbucklerecords.com

Song list: The Rain, Music to My Ears, Blossoms on the Almond Tree, Wings to Fly, Soul Phone, Getting Ready for Sunday, Seeds, My Jesus, God's Refrigerator, Make Him A Soldier, Raise This River.

Valerie Smith's heartfelt alto voice wraps itself around a song in a warm embrace and this album is a fine collection of original gospel

songs. Valerie's band Liberty Pike includes Becky Buller on fiddle and clawhammer banjo, Casey Grimes on bass and Jonathan Maness on guitar and mandolin. The band's usual hard driving bluegrass instrumentation takes a back seat on this recording, and the wonderful vocal harmonies make each song a special celebration of praise.

Lisa Aschmann wrote 5 of the songs, and her "God's Refrigerator" has the wonderful image of God's kitchen with pictures of the singer as a child on the refrigerator. Lisa's "Music to My Ears" has the old-timey rhythm of the clawhammer banjo with Matt Leadbetter's dobro and Mike Compton's mandolin adding instrumental harmony voices. Claire Lynch's "Wings to Fly" features a gentle rocking rhythm to the song of expectation of angelic flight. The band's vocals soar in zestful harmony in the two a cappella songs, "Soul Phone" with its church choir call-and-response power, and "My Jesus," written by band member Becky Buller. The Louvin Brothers' "Make Him A Soldier" has the classic overlapping four vocal parts including a high tenor. There are no rugged crosses or hallelujahs on the album, but the songs have a contemporary inspiration that will gladden the heart and fill the soul.

Please contact Brenda Hough for more information or to submit material for review:

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CD review - Tonya Lowman

By Joe Ross

Hi, here's a review of Tonya Lowman's new album of originals. Tonya sells them at cdbaby.com, or better yet just ask your local music store to order & stock them thru the Super-D one-stop music distribution catalog. Enjoy!

Tonya Lowman – It's Gonna Take A Long Time

Calico Road Records, no number
www.TonyaLowman.com
Lenoirtonya@aol.com
Playing time – 24:56

Song list: Here In My Little Room, Old Forgotten Homeplace, Clarence's Song, The Runaway Train, Song For Mama, Whatcha Wanna Do, It's Going Take A Long Time, Foothills of Caroline, Nail Scarred Hands, When I Get Home

Ten songs written and sung by Tonya Lowman, from North Carolina, are a nice showcase of her songwriting abilities, spirited vocalizing and thoughtful messages. Tonya's inspiration comes from her own and others' experiences, and she admits that gospel tunes (Nail Scarred Hands, When I Get Home) are the easiest for her to compose. She listens to many artists and types of music so it's not surprising that the opener, "Here

In My Little Room," has a bluesy feeling to it.

Lean arrangements bring each song in at about 2 minutes apiece, and the album's total playing time amounts to just under 25 minutes. While I personally like to see more instrumental breaks, this more raw-boned approach makes the songs accessible and emphasizes the lyrics. "The Runaway Train," for example, would've been a prime candidate for some locomotive string interplay between verses. Tonya's formidable voice has plenty of confidence as she sings with an all-star ensemble of David Johnson (mandolin, fiddle), Eric Ellis (banjo), Kenny Smith (guitar), and Mark Fain (bass). There's great instrumental prowess demonstrated in "It's Gonna Take a Long Time." For even more poignancy and passion, it might have been nice to incorporate more of Johnson's splendid unpretentious fiddle that appears in four pieces ("Nail Scarred Hands," "When I Get Home," "Old Forgotten Homeplace," and "The Runaway Train").

"Song For Mama" is really about Lowman's grandmother, a little woman who worked hard, dressed simple, prayed with devotion, raised kids, and was always very content with her lifestyle. Lowman asks, "Ain't it funny that the world didn't stop when momma had to go?" The inspiration for

"Old Forgotten Homeplace" came to Tonya when she passed an old homesite on the Old Johns River Road. The remains of an old fireplace sparked her imagination about the settler who once called that place home and worked the fields. Lowman also has her songs of rambling and getting out of town. "The Runaway Train" is her only train song to date, but the message is really that she's ready to leave the boy miles away and "ride away on a runaway train." Written out of sheer frustration, "Whatcha Wanna Do" successfully captures Tonya's feelings when there were more people worried about what she was doing than she was herself. She calls it her quirky "no commitments, no nothing, be free, nobody worrying 'bout me song."

Tonya Lowman and her accompanists convey much enthusiasm and spark. She has penned some enchanting songs, and some have good potential as covers for professional touring bluegrass groups in search of some new, intriguing material.

Please contact Joe Ross for more information or to submit material for review:

rossjoe@hotmail.com

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2006 Wolf Mountain Festival at Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds

By Regina Bartlett

I took part in the 15th year of the Wolf Mountain Bluegrass Festival October 6th thru 8th at its new location, the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds off of Highway 152. The attendance was down from years past perhaps because of Hardly Strictly Bluegrass happening also this same weekend. But the pickers were there. Wolf Mountain is known to be a pickers festival and that it is indeed! The sound was provided by Paul Knight. The days were warm and the nights got a little chilly but the harvest full moon rising over Mount Madonna was just spectacular!

The new location is beautiful with lots of room for some good camping. There was grass to pitch a tent on and pretty views and nobody was cramped or crowded. There was plenty of comfortable camping at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds. This was the first time that the Fairgrounds has had a bluegrass festival and Dave Baker should be complimented for securing the new location. The Santa Cruz County Fair Director, Yvette Jordan, is looking forward to more bluegrass music events happening at the Fairgrounds. Please contact her at (831) 724-5671 to discuss booking these future events. Santa Cruz County is close to the Bay Area and has much to offer the Bluegrass Community.

I have been asked to give a review of the Festival and I must confess that due to my work schedule, I missed the Friday DAY events and the concerts of Jim Lewin and Dave Baker, Sidesaddle and Company, Keith Little and Jim Nunally, High Country, Eric Cornforth and Tom Ethridge, and Highway One. I didn't arrive until around 6:00PM Friday night, just in time to see Sidesaddle & Company kick off a great evening of music! This band just has fun and bluegrass down to an art form full of tasty licks and wonderful songs. I especially love Queen for a Day off their new CD. Great music and wonderful friends.

Next up was Lone Prairie. This band has the finest Cowboy Music in California. Jack Sadler's voice is so beautiful and can he yodel??? Karen Quick on bass keeps these guys all together and they put on three great shows this past weekend. Blue Prairie is one of my favorites. This band hand has it all, good pickers, great songs, wonderful voices and best of all, magic.

High Country came on next and this band just keeps the bluegrass standard at a high level. Of course, if your last name is Waller, you better be picking some excellent bluegrass. They have a new 2 CD set named 25 years of Bluegrass. I had my Bluegrass 'Good Book' open and watched and learned some wonderful songs. High Country also did 3 sets.

Perfect Stangers sure are perfect!

Excellent pickers, impeccable timing, and harmony and dynamics all done with bluegrass tasty licks and just dog good music. This band just has it down. Paul Knight on bass had some incredible solos too. I've been a fan of Jody Stecher for many years and would travel to see him play with anybody! What a band. Mr. Minton on dobro also added a lot of good licks to the music of Perfect Strangers. What a band!

Cold Creek traveled from Utah, and what a surprise! Great music and exciting vocals and drive in their bluegrass. They were competing with the Friday night car races but didn't seem to let it bother their act! They just rocked their bluegrass and delivered three great shows.

Sidesaddle "circled their wagons" and had a great little camp compound like they always do! So did the "Cowboys" Lone Prairie. Both of these groups of pickers and friends had wonderful jams with heaters and music and hospitality the entire festival. The tent camping was made in the shade under tall Eucalyptus trees. Great jams were everywhere and even found in the back there by the teepee. There's a little vacant house called the Clubhouse that had some great jams going on inside it with a heater for the late night chill.

I didn't camp and rough it this time or sleep in my truck. I live 5 minutes away from the Fairgrounds so I went home to my own little warm bed and hot shower in the morning! There's no place like home! But my camp at the festival was with my Morgan Hill friends, Duane Campbell, Jody and his kids, Dawn, Doug, Paul, and Ralph. Thanks for the great jamming!

Saturday morning I arrived around 9:00 AM, looking to see if any kids were there for the Kids on Stage program. I was thrilled to see Marty Varner and his Dad, Mark. But then I found out that they were not going to be at Wolf Mountain on Sunday. I then ran into Bethany McHenry, a great Kids on Stage singer and guitar player, and her parents. They were visiting family and came down for the day, and they too would not be here for the Sunday Kids on Stage show. This was the story I got most of Saturday until around 4:00 pm when the arrival of Angelica Grimm and her talented sister, Christine, made my sun shine brighter! I then changed the Kids on Stage show that I had in mind into an opportunity for Angelica to pick and choose her band out of the bluegrass musicians in attendance! Whew! I was frettin' a bit, but the Lord did provide the best for Sunday after all!

The Saturday concerts:

Page Brownton and Friends put on a great show. My friend Char-

lotte Cole played fiddle with Page. Page has been playing for a long time and has an incredible repertoire of songs and always amazes me with his concerts.

Jake Quesenberry and the MacRae Brothers came on next and we are so fortunate to have Jake as one of the CBA Founding Fathers of bluegrass. He keeps the show rolling on with light humorous stories and jokes. They have a new bass player, Josh, and Jake and Matt Dudman, had the perfect balance of sound for their two part brother harmony. Seems like everyone came out to the audience area to see Jake play with the MacRae Brothers. It's always a treat and something to behold.

Perfect Strangers played another spectacular set of music. Excellent timing, tasteful songs, and wonderful harmony through out their set left folks wanting more!

There was an instrument swap meet Saturday afternoon. I met one little girl that was given a guitar from her Grandpa that he purchased for her at the swap meet. I did not see too much activity happening there. Perhaps next year folks will take advantage of this and trade their instruments or consider donating them to the Darrell Kids on Stage Instrument Lending Library!

The Abbot Family put on a great Bluegrass Music by Ear workshop on Saturday. They have got ear training down real good and easy for all you beginner bluegrassers. You want to know what a I IV V chord is in any key? Well come to one of their workshops and you'll know how to fret with the best of them!

Cold Creek came on Saturday Afternoon with some wonderful bluegrass. They came all the way from Utah to Santa Cruz for this festival and are an up and coming bluegrass band. All great players too!

Lone Prairie. What can I say that hasn't been said before? Great cowboy songs, incredible harmonies and picking, fantastic stage presence and what a voice Jack Sadler has! Karen Quick never sounded better.

High Plains Tradition. What a surprise this band was, especially because they come from Colorado and they have been together for over 20 years! Great voices and excellent harmonies, too. Look for this band they are impressive and have some great bluegrass to offer!

Mighty Crows were the Emerging Band winners from Plymouth! Once more the Mighty Crows left the audience wanting more! Great musicianship and wonderful harmonies and soulful bluegrass. They kicked it off their bluegrass quest last year at Tim Edes' Morgan Hill Grange Concert and never lost momentum with every show because they all know that it's one show at a time and they deliver ex-

cellent bluegrass music done with great showmanship!

The Evening concerts were by the bands I raved about previously! High Country, Perfect Strangers, Cold Creek, and High Plains Tradition.

Sunday Bluegrass Chapel with Steve Kirtley was so beautiful and inviting. Steve as m/c brought up Jake Quesenberry and the MacRae Brothers for an inspirational gospel set. They were followed by Bean Creek who did an outstanding Gospel set! Billy, Sarah, Rob Horgan and Pete Hicks can play bluegrass music and have slipped in a gospel song here or there, but never have they performed a full set of bluegrass music like they did this Sunday! It was wonderful.

High Plains Tradition, the wonderful band of 20 years played some amazing gospel bluegrass music. What voices! What great bluegrass tenor voices! Oh my! Thanks guys, hope to see you at another festival in the future. You just nailed it!

Kids Bluegrass Jam - I'm so happy to report that these kids were at Wolf Mountain and played some outstanding music today. The Kids on Stage who played some FINE Bluegrass Music together were: Angelica Grimm and Company, featuring: her sweet sister Christine on fiddle, Dougster Montgomery, Jakey Quesenberry, Davy Baker, Davy Maghram, and Stevie Kirtle! All these boys and girls made us all so proud of how the future of Bluegrass Music is progressing in California on this beautiful Sunday afternoon in Santa Cruz! Hats off to Angelica for coming thru again and always with grace, talent and charm! She put together an excellent band full of great pickers and good kids! Excellent job, Kids!

Jake Quesenberry & The Mac-

Rae Brothers - What more can I say? Jake is the best bluegrass musician we have in California and we are so lucky to have him and the MacRae Brothers! Watch, listen and learn from the Best in the West!

Mighty Crows gave another great set of bluegrass music and left us all wanting more!

Lone Prairie: those cowboys can sure yodel, sing, pick and play bluegrass music! They were at Wolf Mountain for the entire festival and were so wonderful to jam and hang out with when they weren't on stage!

Sidesaddle and Company was the opening and closing act of Wolf Mountain. Where can you find such a talented band full of seasoned veteran bluegrass musicians that know how to get the job done? They did two sets, drove to Sacramento and they came back to do the closing concert! Just some of the best professional bluegrass musicians we have on the Central Coast of California!

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The Knockout, 3223 Mission Street, SF. (415)550-6994
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Belle Monroe & Her Brewglass Boys, Mad Cow Stringband
Plough & Stars, 116 Clement St @2nd, SF. (415)751-1122
Nov 24th - Turkey Trot 2006: an Americana Music Feast (13th Annual), 8pm, \$10
Pine Box Boys, The Whoreshoes, Kemo Sabe, 77 El Deora
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Chris Henry is a master of Monroe style mandolin. In addition to playing with his sister Casey Henry in Casey and Chris and the Two Stringers, he has just released his first solo album, *Monroe Approved*, on Arrandem Records.



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Fans love Bluegrassin' in the Foothills

B in the F rules!

The feeling of welcome precedes even our arrival. We've seen Larry and Sondra Baker at summertime festivals, always happy to talk about the upcoming Bluegrassin' in the Foothills. We see their posts on the CBA message board when they announce the bounty of talent they have lined up and the special features to be presented at Plymouth. We email back and forth leading up to the event. Larry and Sondra always have the Life Is Good spirit and share it freely. Attendees new to L&S Promotions are somewhat taken aback by the royal way the festival "regulars" are treated, but given the opportunity the Bakers will make friends out of customers with ease and rapidity. The couple is acquainted with about three quarters of those attending.

My family and I have loved coming to the Amador County Fairgrounds for years, going back to the Late Summer Bluegrass Festival run by Dale Lawrence. It's a really nice spot for the tent campers, with lots of grass, shade and pretty landscaping. I can't speak for the RV folks, but they all looked like they were pretty happy with their lot in life. There is a grassy audience area with shade for those who would seek it out. It got pretty toasty down in front in the afternoons, but it was better than having rain or cold like the California skies have been surprising us with over the last couple of years. In fact there were sprinkles when we drove up on Thursday afternoon. The sun came out in time for the music on Friday and it felt pretty darned good. This is after all the last summertime fling for many of us.

Upon our arrival friendly and familiar faces meet us, issuing wristbands and guiding us to our camping spot. We take our usual place near the pond and see that everyone else is in his or her every-year spot as well. We grassers are creatures of habit if nothing else. All around us are the fairground buildings that make warm and resonant jamming quarters when the moon is high.

The California Bluegrass Association's Kids on Bluegrass heroine Sharon Elliott kicked the whole shebang off by singing the National Anthem to great acclaim. The stage rocketed into bluegrass orbit as the first band, Dan Paisley and Southern Grass took off. It was almost dreamlike to suddenly, at 10 AM on a pleasant Friday in September, be exposed to music that is a rocking object lesson in traditional bluegrass. Like the old album title said, Steeped in Tradition. It's the first

Continued on B-10



Tom Tworek, Rick Cornish and J.D. Rhynes
photo: Mark Varner



Ken Reynolds would not, could not miss Plymouth
photo: Mark Varner



Super volunteer Joyce Bowcock
photo: Mark Varner



Super sweet Nancy Zuniga
photo: Mark Varner



Roger Siminoff finds time to jam.... and jam, and jam
photo: Bob Calkins



The crowd
photo: Mark Varner



A quiet moment of reflection
photo: Mark Varner

Fans love Bluegrassin' in the Foothills



Ethan, Aimee, Daisy and Paige - first festival performance for the Anderson Family Band

photo: Tom Tworek



KOB Dana Frankel, age 7

photo: Tom Tworek



KOB at Plymouth

Every year the summer bluegrass season seems to hit fast like a whirlwind and suddenly we find ourselves at one of the last bluegrass festivals of the season: Larry and Sondra Bakers "Bluegrassin' in the Foothills" at Plymouth. For me, the time went so fast that by the time this festival came around, I was barely ready for it.

At each festival the kids change. Always there are returning kids, but there is also the continuing ebb of kids coming and going. The beauty of this is that as these kids come through the Kids on Bluegrass shows they learn about performing on stage, becoming a band, how to work together and many other aspects of performing and as they grow they begin to spread their wings, and sometimes leave the KOB or begin to do other things. That sometimes mean they miss participating in some of the KOB shows and they eventually just turn 18 at which time they are no longer eligible to participate in the Kids on Bluegrass show. It resembles the cycle of life. Although some leave, there are always some of our experienced kids that remain, ready to take the lead, ready to reach out to help the new kids that always seem to come. There are always new kids anxious to become part of the Kids on Bluegrass.

The Anderson Family had decided to take a break from the Kids on Bluegrass and performing at all during the Plymouth Festival. Over the past year this family band had performed almost non-stop throughout the year and by Grass Valley Fathers Day Festival exhaustion had set in. Their decision this year was to just take some time and off and just jam the weekend away. That decision changed a bit though when Larry Baker called them and said that one of the Emerging Bands that was scheduled had cancelled and asked if the Andersons would help out by playing at that. They did and although we didn't have the kids as part of the KOB, the audience was treated to our very own special and wonderful family band! It is evident that being a "family band" is what is most special to this family!

A.J. Lee was also involved with a school talent show in which she and her mom, Betsy, had taken two other eight year old girls and over the past two months had taught them to play fiddle and mandolin for three bluegrass songs which they would be performing at the show. The final rehearsal was the same weekend as the Plymouth Festival.

Angelica Grim as well as Scott Gates and several other kids were in Southern California performing with the Pacific Ocean Bluegrass



Jere Cherryholmes

photo: Tom Tworek



Mike Paisley, Don Eldreth Jr. , Dan Paisley, Bobby Lundy - simply the best . Not pictured: fiddler TJ Lundy

photo: Bob Colkins

Hit and Run's Rebecca Frazier

photo: Tom Tworek



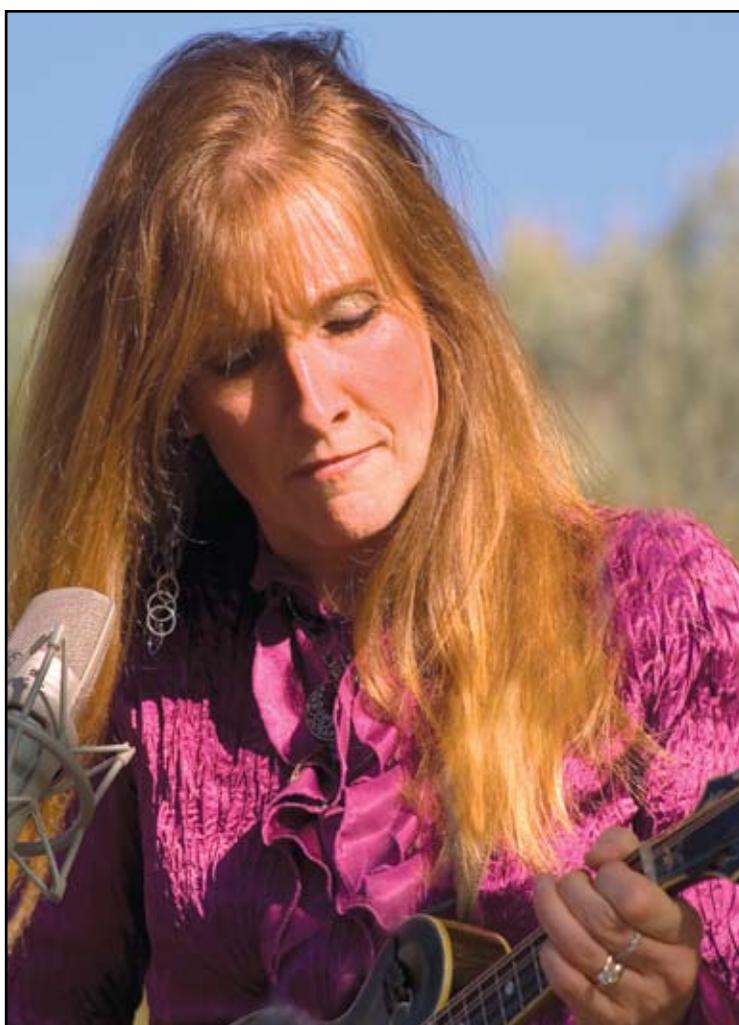
Danny

photo: Tom Tworek



Victor Dowdy

photo: Tom Tworek



Sandy Cherryholmes - the force behind the family band

photo: Tom Tworek

Continued on B-11

Bluegrassin' in the Foothills rules!

Continued from B-8
generation music, the stuff that no matter how many stylistic developments filter into the mix stands the test of time and inspires young and old fans with its soul. It's a direct line to the Bob Paisley/ Ted Lundy style of bluegrass and I hope Dan, TJ, Bobby and Mike will carry on that tradition for many, many years to come. I'm kind of partial to the slow ones that Dan grinds out, so when they played tunes like Room

Over Mine and Old Hickory Cane in the first set it suited me fine. TJ and Bobby sounded wonderful as always and Don Eldreth's mando work was nicely focused and sweet. Don's vocal work with the amazing Dan Paisley was right on. Danny has a gift in his voice, true, but the tender and ferocious way he sings is coming from somewhere much deeper than a set of pipes and some powerful lungs. He's a singer's singer. Dan Paisley and Southern Grass

are arguably the foremost practitioners of traditional bluegrass.

This was a fine lineup and there were plenty of stage highlights and good diversity in musical styles. The Chapmans, Special Consensus and California's Bound to Ride presented very enjoyable performances that had a modern sensibility but didn't stray off the bluegrass path. Cherryholmes put on powerful and well choreographed sets that drew upon the many talents of

each of the family members. Their powerful showmanship earned them IBMA's 2005 Entertainer of the Year. The Bluegrass Brothers did not disappoint their California fans. They like their bluegrass gritty and rowdy and they are delightful entertainers. Victor Dowdy's excellent song tribute to 9/11 touched the audience.

For those of us who treasure the JD Crowe sound of countrified bluegrass, seeing Wildfire on a Cal-

ifornia stage was a thrill. The combination of good solid bluegrass and real-deal country is like pie ala Mode. Three of the members of this band were part of Crowe's group: IBMA's 2005 Dobro Player of the Year Phil Leadbetter, bassist Curt Chapman and singer/guitarist Robert Hale. Robert's honky tonk style singing sends cold chills up the spine of every fan that enjoys their music on the Merle Haggard/ George Jones side. Darrell Webb, a former member of Lonesome River Band and Lou Reid and Carolina has a wonderful mandolin style and a striking voice. Barry Crabtree's been on the five since he was seven and it surely shows. What a hoss. Uncle Phil is one of the most popular bluegrass musicians in the business and his easy going stage presence and his old-school reso work make for a fun show. Here's hoping the CBA will invite this excellent group to play in 2008.

Sondra and Larry's Emerging Artist contest is not only fun to watch but also a service to the bluegrass community. It gives a big leg up to amateur bands, putting them on the main stage and allowing them to compete for a slot at next year's Bluegrassin' in the Foothills. Three groups are invited and are scored by a secret panel of judges. This is no open mic. The bands are carefully selected by the Bakers to ensure quality. It's a bit rough to compete and there can only be one winner.

This year's Emerging Artist competition was good as always. The Yosemite area's Smiley Mountain Band Bay Areas faves Grizzly Peak distinguished themselves well, but the Mighty Crows inched them out to reign supreme. We'll see them on stage at next year's Bluegrassin' in the Foothills.

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13 - 18 Half Price - 12 and under Free

Chris Stuart & Backcountry

Award-winning (and much-covered) songwriter Chris Stuart is joined by ace banjo player Janet Beazley (whose solo album is riding the *Bluegrass Unlimited* charts), hot picker Mason Tuttle (lead guitar, mandolin), and wunderkids Christian Ward (fiddle) and Justin Ward (bass). "Chris Stuart & Backcountry have a whole lot going for them: excellent musical chops, excellent songs," says *Sing Out!* Magazine about the finest contemporary bluegrass in Southern California. Chris is a former winner in both bluegrass and gospel categories at the songwriting contest at Merlefest and his song "Twenty Naked Pentecostals in a Pontiac" was featured on NPR's "Car Talk." Chris's songs "Silver Quarter" (from the Backcountry debut album, "Saints and Strangers" and "Julia Belle" (from Janet Beazley's album, "5 South") have spent months on Bluegrass Unlimited's National Bluegrass Survey chart. Dale Ann Bradley sings Chris's song, Julia Belle, on her new album "Catch Tomorrow."

Dec. 16: The Webster Sisters [with Scott Nygaard, Brittany Haas, and Cindy Browne]

What do you get when you combine a soul/country singer-songwriter (Chris Webster), a Baroque opera singer (Cassie Webster), a bluegrass guitarist (Scott), an old-time fiddle prodigy (Brittany), and a jazz bassist (Cindy)? It's hard to define, but easy to enjoy. The music is based on bluegrass and old time songs and tunes, but expect some unusual twists and turns — and a memorable evening! Brittany and Scott open the evening with a set of fiddle-guitar duets that will knock your socks off.

Jan. 27: The Kenny & Amanda Smith Band

Winners of the IBMA Emerging Artist of the Year award in 2003, the band combines gutsy, heartfelt vocals, brilliant instrumental talents, and refreshing arrangements and repertoire. Kenny is a two-time IBMA Guitarist of the Year who spent 6 years with the Lonesome River Band and played on the 2001 Instrumental Album of the Year, *Knee Deep in Bluegrass*. Amanda is a compelling vocalist, and the band includes longtime associates Ron Inscore/mandolin and Steve Huber/banjo (Bob Paisley & the Southern Grass, Lonesome Standard Time, 1946, and Chris Jones & the Night Drivers). From *Meadows Of Dan*, Virginia.

Coming...Feb. 17: Blue Highway

Tickets are available online from TicketWeb (www.ticketweb.com) and by mail order: RBA, P.O. Box 390515, Mountain View, CA 94039. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope along with your check or money order, plus a note indicating what you want to order. Tickets also available at Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert St., Palo Alto. Additional information: 650-691-9982, www.rba.org Thank you for your support!

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KOB at Plymouth

Continued from B-9

Band at a festival, and where were the rest of the kids we usually see? Hopefully, they were somewhere making music.

This year at Plymouth, I knew that Frank Solivan would not be arriving until Friday evening. The ramifications of this would mean that there would be no rehearsal until Saturday morning and that meant that we had only one day to put a show together. It would be long rehearsals and probably three times during the day that we would meet. When you have a lot of kids (we usually have about 14 to 20 at the Plymouth festival) this makes for some hard, fast work to try to put a show together! It's funny, however, how things work out, because on Saturday morning, when we finally gathered at 10:00 AM, we found that we only had 7 kids, 4 returning veterans and 3 new kids. One was 14, one was 10, and all the others were only 6 and 7 years old! As Frank and I looked at each other, we both, for a moment, wondered what we would do. There were not enough experienced kids here to form a backup band! For a few minutes, I at least was at a loss. For Frank, he once again just simply said, "Just wait, we'll have a great show". At that point, he said he had something to do and instructed me to start finding what each of these kids could do. It didn't take long to indeed realize that even though we didn't have many kids, it would still end up being a unique and wonderful show. With Bethany McHenry on guitar and Marty Varner on mandolin and guitar we had two strong kids that would be able to handle the duties of the "backup band".

I began to make a list of the songs that Bethany and Marty could sing and knew that with their experience I really didn't need to take the time now to actually have them sing any of their songs. That would be left for Frank so I then moved on to the others.

Meghan Lange-10-fiddle & vocals, had told me on Friday that she was going to once again participate in the Kids on Bluegrass. We first met Meghan over a year ago when she and her brother thought they might like to participate in the KOB but then decided not to. Last year at Plymouth, Meghan did join the KOB and played the song John Hardy. During a rehearsal break while Angelica was just standing around singing, Meghan wandered close to Angelica and started singing with her. This was our first indication that Meghan might like to sing, but on that weekend she didn't sing during the performance. This year I asked her what song she was going to play and she told me she had a song to sing and play. "It's a song called "Traveling Soldier" by the Dixie Chicks", she said. I vaguely remembered hearing this song but couldn't quite put my finger on it. Her dad was present and said he would have to

play the bass with her which was a problem as no parents go on stage with the kids for the show. No problem, he said, it's just to get her started to let us see how she does the song and with that Meghan began singing it. She starts out with a vocal solo and then the music kicks in. While I sat there listening to her sing, I could feel my eyes begin to get big as I heard the extraordinary sound of her voice. Just at that moment, Frank walked in and he heard also. We looked at each other and together shared a very special moment as we both had the very same thought at the exact same moment. Here before us was another new and beautiful voice. An absolute surprise. Although we had heard her last year for just a moment, we had no idea that this voice was in her. When I talked to her dad, he also said that he and Meghan's mom had no idea either! He said that one day they heard Meghan singing along with the CD and they too were stunned to hear her voice. As we began to work with Meghan, Frank realized that something just wasn't quite right. The key Meghan was singing in and the key the instruments were in didn't quite match. Bethany and Marty tried to play backup but somehow we just couldn't get voice and instruments on the same level. Avram Frankel, dad to Dana, offered to help and soon we were finally able to put it all together. As Meghan sang the song again, we sat there and listened to what would become probably the most powerful and moving song of the show. You just never know what you're going to get!

Dana Frankel-age 7-fiddle, came to the Kids on Bluegrass for the first time. I had spoken to her mother Vicki just prior to Grass Valley through other circumstances and she had asked me about the Kids on Bluegrass program. I was hoping to see Dana at the Grass Valley KOB but didn't so when I saw them in the Plymouth rehearsal room, I was delighted. Dana has been taking fiddle lessons from Catherine Manning for about 1 1/2 years and also attends a jam class for kids with her. At the rehearsal, I asked Dana what she could play and she rattled off about 6 songs including The Tennessee Waltz. Knowing that this is one of the songs that Frank loves, I suggested that when she auditions for Frank she should play this very song. While Dana was playing the tune, Veronica Varner-age 7-fiddle, and veteran of the KOB stood close by and said she too knew this song. Before Frank returned, the two girls seemed to naturally begin to bond and they started playing some tunes together. Veronica has been with the KOB for some time now and naturally takes to becoming a little "teacher" when new kids her age come into the fold. When Frank returned, he met Dana and in his usual style shook her hand and got her to giggling and then she played Tennessee Waltz. Frank

asked if Veronica could play this song and with an affirmative nod he suggested that the two girls play the song together, each taking separate breaks and with that he sent the girls off to a separate corner to work on their song. Later Frank would ask Dana and Veronica if there was another song they could play together and they both agreed on "Cripple Creek". It was Dana's first time with KOB and already she was making friends!

Bethany McHenry-age 14-guitar and vocals sits cross-legged on the ground and sings "Steel Rails" and "Hide Away". Bethany is always ready and well prepared with several new songs and every time I hear her sing, she just gets better and better. Her timing is impeccable. As she plays, Marty comes over and joins in playing backup then takes a rockin' break and Frank jumps out of his chair at Marty and Marty jumps back and together they all break out in laughter. Bethany and Marty have played together many times and they easily work together on working out their songs. Meghan also helps out with chops on her fiddle. The Kids on Bluegrass program is an important part of these kids lives and for Bethany this weekend shows how she really feels about being part of the KOB and performing in general, for she had been nominated by her school as a candidate for the freshman Homecoming Princess and ended up giving up the title because she wanted to be part of the Kids on Bluegrass and perform at Plymouth. The ceremonies were to take place on the very same weekend. Her passion for singing and playing won out and we were the winners because she was with the KOB that weekend. In the end, Bethany would sing, "Steel Rails", "Hide Away" and "It Rains Everywhere I go".

Marty Varner-age 10-mandolin, guitar and vocals, is so much fun to work with! There is an exhilarated vibrancy to Marty that can absolutely brighten a room. Filled with a passion not only for his music but also just life in general, this kid is always ON! His spirit and vivaciousness just seem to fill the space that surrounds him. During a lunch break, Steven and I were sitting at a table with several other adults when Marty came up and sat with us. Over the next half hour, Marty conversed very intelligently, knowledgeably and humorously with all the adults at the table about sports. It was really quite amazing to listen to this young boy and I just could not quite wipe the grin off my face. Back in the rehearsal room Marty whipped through many songs and in the end he would play four songs on stage. During rehearsal, Marty informed Frank that he had written a song and he would like to play it. He wrote it, he said, in the shower one day. I jokingly asked him if he had taken his mandolin and pen and paper in the shower with him too, and of course he said no, it

just "kinda" ran through his head in the shower. But, Marty's mind is really quick and at performance time he used that very conversation to introduce his new song! Now song writing, as most of us know is not an easy thing to do, so I wondered what a song written by a 10 year old would sound like. As we sat there and listened to Marty play and sing his song, we were all stunned and surprised by just how good it was. It wasn't just good, it was great! It is a gospel song called "Heaven Train" and Heaven must have been guiding his hand when he wrote it. At performance time the audience loved it. Marty also sang and played "Coa Mining Man" and "Room Over Mine".

Abigail Copenhaver-age 7-fiddle and vocals and Alisha Copenhaver-age 6-fiddle and vocals joined the Kids on Bluegrass for the first time. These two beautiful sisters were well prepared with many songs. Both playing fiddle, Abigail plays and sings lead while the younger Alisha plays and sings harmony. As Abigail and Alisha play for Frank Marty, Bethany and Meghan begin to try to play backup to these two girls. It takes a little work to get the backup together and finally the girl's mom offers to work with the two girls and help Bethany, Marty and Meghan get the backup. Melissa, the girl's mom is a fiddle teacher and also plays guitar. These girls have chosen "Polk County Breakdown", "My Grandfathers Clock" and "Beautiful Brown Eyes".

By this point the group of seven kids separated into two or three groups. Justin Booth-age 14-fiddle, has come into the rehearsal and tells Frank that he would like to be part of the KOB but unfortunately he will not be here on Sunday for the performance. Justin has been part of the KOB several times and is a top fiddle player! As Frank explains that it would be confusing to the kids if he was part of the rehearsal than not part of the performance, Frank also sees an opportunity for Justin to help in another way. He asked Justin if he would help Ve-

ronica and Dana by taking them just outside the doors and work with them on their songs. Justin is happy to work with the two girls and by the time we ask them to come back in, their two songs flow beautifully and they have added one more song, "Angeline the Baker". Once again, we see kids helping kids!

Finally, we are ready to line the kids up against one wall and Frank begins to put the songs in order. We are ready for our first run through. Just before we begin, Abigail says she can play "Stinkeys Blues" so Frank has her play it. As she is playing her song, Frank looks over at Abigail's sister Alisha and rolls his head to the beat. Suddenly, Frank stops and Alisha locks eyes with Frank and she starts rocking her head to the beat, then she stops and Frank does it again, these two locked in a private moment of connection back a forth they go. I've seen this so many times with Frank, these playful little things that he does with different kids at different times that just seems to bring out a sparkle in the children's eyes. There is a connection between director and performer. It's a beautiful moment. As we proceed through the songs, Frank becomes very quiet, looking at my set list and working out in his mind the proper order in which to build this show. As I rewrite the order of the songs, the rehearsal begins. Abigail will start the show with "Stinkeys Blues" and then her sister will join her for "Polk County Breakdown". By the end of the day and the last rehearsal, we have our show and will end with these two new girls singing "My Grandfathers Clock" and "Beautiful Brown Eyes". With only seven kids we no longer were worried. We knew it would be a great show.

When the performance finally arrived Sunday morning, Frank led his kids to the stage, all wearing the Kids on Bluegrass shirts that Larry and Sondra provided. With

Continued on B-12

THE CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO THANK...

THE C. F. MARTIN GUITAR COMPANY for their generous contribution of two Little Martin LXM 3/4 size guitars to the Darrell Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library. The gift of these two guitars helps provide our children with excellent quality instruments and will put music in the hands and heart of a young person and will help keep bluegrass music alive. Thanks also to Chris Thomas, Artist Relations and Publicity and Joe McNamara, District Sales Manager for their help. The California Bluegrass Association appreciates the support of the C. F. Martin Guitar Company for the Darrell Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library.



KOB at Plymouth

Continued from B-11

Bethany, Marty and Meghan as our backup band, the show began. Abigail and Alisha were new to the audience and these two girls were magic and the audience told them so!

Dana and Veronica were also wonderful as they played together and one would never know that had just met the day before. Bethany and Marty, both so at ease on stage now, move through their songs with a professionalism that belies their age, both giving their heart and soul to the thing they love the most, their music.

At each performance, whether a Kids on Bluegrass performance or a performance by any other performing band, there always seems to be a song that sticks out in a special way. A song that touches the audience deeply, or brings a special sparkle to the show. On this day it would be Meghan Lange singing "Traveling Soldier". As Meghan began singing, a cappella and then began to play her fiddle with the

other kids joining in, you could actually feel a current or vibration go through the audience as Meghan's voice and the words of the song captured and held tightly every soul in the audience. Tears rolled down the many faces, with some letting forth little sobs as Meghan's beautiful voice floated through the air with this heart wrenching song.

At the end of the show, Frank proudly joined his kids on stage for their final encore and got the audience to sing "You Are My Sunshine" with him and his kids.

In the end, I was reminded once again by Frank that we will always have a show. As kids grow and leave, or find other things to do, there will always be new kids to come along, with new voices and new songs, and our young ones of yesterday will always be there take on the leadership roles and bend down to the new ones to teach what they have learned. Kids teaching kids, forever.

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The Circle R Boys: Bob Waller, Steve Pottier,
Paul Bernstien and Josh Hadley

The Circle R Boys Release Debut CD

The Circle R Boys announce the release of their first CD, "Rare Bluegrass Recordings."

Starting with the title, it raises more questions than it answers.

Q. Who are the Circle R Boys?

A. That would be Bob Waller on guitar, Steve Pottier on mandolin, Paul Bernstein on banjo, and Josh Hadley on bass, from the San Francisco Bay Area.

Q. Why "Rare Bluegrass Recordings"?

A. Because they started recording it in the year 2000 and finished it in the year 2006. Plans are to follow it with an extensive promotional CD release tour, tentatively entitled "Rare Bluegrass Appearances." Actually, they are a featured band at this year's CBA Fall Campout and play at the San Gregorio Store, the Atlas Café in San Francisco, and The Bistro in Hayward.

Q. Why "The Circle R Boys"?

A. The Circle R refers to the registered trademark insignia. When the Boyz first started out, they were calling themselves The Knott Brothers. Turned out there was another Knott Brothers (actually several) and in the process of contemplating new names and the intricacies of federal trademark law, The Circle R Boys name emerged. (Close runner-up, after the name of the federal trademark law, "The Lanham Act".)

Q. Why is it released on "Registered Records"?

A. See preceding paragraph.

Q. Don't tell me Registered Records has put out 75010 records.

A. No, but RR #1 or RR #101 seemed boring. 7-5010 was the number on Bill Monroe's Greatest Hits. Hence RR # 7-5010.

Q. Where was that cool picture on the back cover taken?

A. The Oakland Museum. They were playing an event there and the museum had a Gold Rush exhibit set up. One tripod, one self-timer, four photographic consultants later, voila, a band photo.

Q. Why is Josh looking like that?

A. He says he was going for the South of Market look. Ask him what that means.

Q. I thought Steve Pottier was a guitar player.

A. So did he. No, actually, he took up the mandolin some time ago and does a great job with it. He also sings on this CD, leads and

baritones. He's also one of the most sought-after bass players in the area, and it's not because he owes people money.

Q. What's with all these quartets?

A. The Boyz like them, and other folks seem to like them, too. "I Am a Pilgrim" was probably the first one, also featuring Bob Waller's Clarence White guitar stylings. "Rock Island Line" came from Brownie and Sonny, and it just sounded like it might work as a bluegrass gospel-style quartet. "Down By the Riverside" is an old standard that seems especially timely these days. Not on the CD are other quartets the Boyz play, such as gospel-style treatments of the Carter Family's "When the Roses Bloom in Dixieland" and Mance Lipscomb's "I Looked Down the Road".

Q. Who's that singing all those bass parts?

A. That's Josh Hadley. This is his first band, and he's had the fortune of having Steve to coach him on bass and Bob to coach him on singing. Steve has taught half the Bay Area to play bass or guitar and Bob is a great singer with a strong country-influenced style.

Q. "Birth of the Blues"? You mean that old Irving Berlin number? What does that have to do with bluegrass?

A. We thought it was Irving Berlin, too, but turns out it's not. Don Reno and Alan Shelton both played it. Paul leans more towards the Shelton version (although he plays it out of D instead of C), and quotes it in the last A part. His jazzy last break was inspired by Alan Munde's discussion of scale tone chords. One of those jazzy chords was a mistake, but everybody else liked it, so it stayed. Says something about jazz. Or Circle R production values. Or something. Biggest compliment Paul ever got from Bob: "He plays the banjo like it's actually a musical instrument."

Q. Lots of country stuff, too.

A. That's mainly Bob's doing. He likes those classic era country singers like Wynn Stewart, Buck Owens, and LeRoy Van Dyke. You should hear his "Mama Tried," "Hello, Trouble," and "Swinging Doors." On this CD, he makes "You're Not Easy to Forget" swing. Then he gets down and tragic on "Today Has Been a Lonesome Day."

Q. Nice to see so much Kentucky Colonels influence here.

A. That's Steve and Bob, both serious, serious students of Clarence White. Steve has an extensive collection of Clarence recordings and is working on transcriptions for a book. He also writes regularly for Flatpicking Guitar Magazine. You can hear Bob's Clarence stylings best on "I Might Take You Back Again" (with an extra verse Steve wrote) and "I Am a Pilgrim." Steve's mandolin playing draws much from Roland White's unique style and, of course, from Bill Monroe.

Q. Who sings on what?

A. The first track, "Rock Island Line", has Paul singing lead on the chorus, with Steve and Josh alternating lines on the verses. Bob sings lead on "You're Not Easy to Forget", "Foggy Mountain Top", "Dark Hollow", "Today Has Been a Lonesome Day", "I Might Take You Back Again", "Walking Down the Line", "I Am a Pilgrim", and "Down by the Riverside". Paul sings lead on "Iron Curtain", Steve on "Sugar Coated Love" and "I Dreamed of an Old Love Affair", and Josh on "Old Swinging Bridge". Most of the trios have Steve on baritone and either Paul or Bob on tenor depending on who is singing lead, except for "Old Swinging Bridge," where Bob sings tenor and Steve sings baritone. Are you glad you asked?

Q. What's that piece of paper sticking out of the mandolin tailpiece on the cover photo?

A. Used to be a theater ticket, to reduce buzz. Now it's Paul's business card. Those who think it adds something special to the tone of Steve's mandolin should contact Paul directly for a card.

Q. Got any more of those Circle R Boys tattoos left?

A. Had some made a few years ago with the distinctive Circle R Boys logo on them (temporary tattoos, needless to say) and there may be a few left for the right person.

Q. Where can I get a copy of this CD?

A. Down Home Records, the San Gregorio General Store, the Music Store in San Francisco, cdbaby.com, CircleRBoys.com, or at one of the Boyz' Rare Bluegrass Appearances (check the web site for a full calendar).



CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

Band Gigs & Concerts

- 11/1/2006 -- Whiskey Brothers will perform at 9:00 p.m. at the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, call 510-843-2473 or visit www.albatrosspub.com
- 11/1/2006 -- Chris Stuart & Backcountry 9 pm Bluegrass Gold concert at Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call 415-332-8498 or visit <http://www.sweetwatersaloon.com>
- 11/2/2006 -- Dark Hollow will perform at the Atlas Cafe, 3049 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA. For information, call JimBo Trout at 415-648-1047, email shout@jimbotrout.com or visit <http://www.atlascafe.net>
- 11/2/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Wil-lowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 11/2/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 11/2/2006 -- The Stoney Mountain Ramblers will perform for NCBS First Thursday at the Prince of Wales Pub, 106 E. 25th Avenue, San Mateo, CA. For information, call 650-574-9723.
- 11/3/2006 -- John Reischman and the Jaybirds perform at The Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-525-1171 or visit www.freightandsalvage.org.
- 11/3/2006 -- Sonoma Mountain Band, 8 pm at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street on the east side of the square in downtown, Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660, email murphy@sonomapub.com, or visit www.sonomapub.com
- 11/4/2006 -- The Spillit Quickers perform from 11 am to 1 pm at Hoppy Brewing Company, 6300 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA. For information, call 916-451-4677, email teeroy@hoppy.com, or visit www.hoppy.com
- 11/4/2006 -- Sidesaddle & Company 8 pm concert at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street Newman, CA. Tickets are \$10 general and \$13 reserved. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490 email info@westsidetheatre.org or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>
- 11/4/2006 -- Washboard Wizardz 8 pm concert at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street Newman, CA. Tickets are \$12 general and \$15 reserved. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490 email info@westsidetheatre.org or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>
- 209-862-4490 email info@westsidetheatre.org or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>
- 11/4/2006 -- Chris Stuart & Backcountry 8 pm Redwood Bluegrass Associates Concert at the First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View, CA. For information or tickets, call 650-691-9982 or visit www.rba.org
- 11/4/2006 -- Howdy!, Lipsey Mountain String Band and The Spillit Quickers perform for Americana Jukebox, 9 pm at The Knockout, 3223 Mission at Valencia, San Francisco, CA. \$8 cover charge. For information, email thearms@hotmail.com or visit www.shelbyashpresents.net
- 11/5/2006 -- Earthquake Country will perform from 2 to 5 pm at San Gregorio General Store, Highway 84 and Stage Road San Gregorio, San Gregorio, CA. For information, call 650-726-0565 or visit www.sangregoriostore.com/
- 11/6/2006 -- Homespun Rowdy will perform from 7:30 - 10:30pm at Amnesia, 853 Valencia St. (between 19th & 20th) San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-970-8336, email info@homespunrowdy.com or visit www.homespunrowdy.com
- 11/6/2006 -- Crosstown performs from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Phil's Fish Market and Eatery on Sandholt Road, Moss Landing, CA. For information, call 831-375-2975 or visit [philsfishmarket.com](http://www.philsfishmarket.com)
- 11/7/2006 -- Bean Creek performs from 6-9 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/8/2006 -- Diana Donnelly & the Yes Ma'ams perform from 6-9 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/8/2006 -- No Hiding Place performs at the Plough and Stars, 116 Clement Street at 2nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA. For information, call, 415-751-1743, email jjgilder@jps.net, or visit <http://pweb.jps.net/~jgilder/plough.html>
- 11/9/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Wil-lowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 11/9/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 11/10/2006 -- Barefoot Nellies will play beginning at 8 pm at McGrath's Irish Pub, 1539 Lincoln (corner of Stanton), Alameda, CA. \$5 cover charge. For information, call Peter Barnardo at 510-522-6263 or visit www.mcgrathspub.com
- 11/11/2006 -- The Spillit Quickers perform at 9 pm at the Fox n' Goose Pub, 1001 R Street (corner of 10th & R), Sacramento, CA. \$3 cover charge. For information, call 916-443-8825, email bmlsh@surewest.net, or visit <http://www.foxandgoose.com>
- 11/11/2006 -- Carolina Special will perform at 8 pm at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street on the east side of the square in downtown, Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660, email murphy@sonomapub.com, or visit www.sonomapub.com
- 11/13/2006 -- Courthouse Ramblers will play beginning at 7 pm at Phil's Fish Market and Eatery on Sandholt Road, Moss Landing, CA. Other musicians are welcome to join in for a bluegrass picking party for the second set starting about 8 pm. For information, call 831-375-2975 or visit [philsfishmarket.com](http://www.philsfishmarket.com)
- 11/14/2006 -- Carolina Special will perform from 6-9 pm at at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/15/2006 -- Sidesaddle & Company will perform from 6-9 pm at at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/15/2006 -- Hot Buttered Rum String Band concert at 8 pm in the Willow Lounge at Black Oak Casino, 19400 Tuolumne Road North, Tuolumne, CA. Co-sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. For information, call Brent Pierce at 877-747-8777 email bpierce@blackoakcasino.com or visit www.blackoakcasino.com
- 11/15/2006 -- Whiskey Brothers will play at 9:00 p.m. at the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, call 510-843-2473 or visit www.albatrosspub.com
- 11/15/2006 -- Lighthouse will perform at the Golden Goose Coffee House, 10001 Maine Ave., Lakeside, CA. For information, call 619-390-1990 or visit www.waynerice.com/lh-gigs.htm
- 11/15/2006 -- The Ancient Tones with Kathy Kallick & Bill Evans will perform for a Bluegrass Gold Concert at 9 pm at the Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call 415-332-8498 or visit www.sweetwatersaloon.com
- 11/15/2006 -- Bluegrass for the Greenbelt concert featuring the Backyard Party Boys, Eric and Suzy Thompson and Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum at Coventry Grove, 523 Coventry Rd., Kensington, CA. 3-6 pm. No parking at concert site -- shuttle from El Cerrito Bart Station. For information, call 415-543-6771 X 304 or visit www.bluegrassforthegreenbelt.org
- 11/16/2006 -- The David Thom Band will perform from 9-11 pm at the Cafe Amsterdam, 23 Broadway, Fairfax, CA. For information, call 415-256-8020.
- 11/16/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Wil-lowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 11/16/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 11/17/2006 -- Belle Monroe & Her Brewglass Boys and Mad Cow String Band perform for Bluegrass Bonanza, 9 pm at the Plough and Stars, 116 Clement Street at 2nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA. \$6 cover charge. For information, email thearms@hotmail.com or visit www.shelbyashpresents.net
- 11/17/2006 -- Kathy Kallick, Bill Evans and friends will perform for a Fresno Folklore Society concert at the Fresno Art Museum, 2233 North First St., Fresno, CA. Tickets are \$18 advance and \$20 at the door. For information or tickets, call 559-431-3653 or visit www.fresnofolkconcerts.com
- 11/17/2006 -- Earthquake Country will perform from 8-10 pm at Blue Rock Shoot in Saratoga, CA. For information, call 408-867-3437
- 11/18/2006 -- High Country will perform at McGrath's Irish Pub, 1539 Lincoln (corner of Stanton), Alameda, CA. For information, call Peter Barnardo at 510-522-6263 or visit www.mcgrathspub.com
- 11/18/2006 -- Ron Thompson will perform at 8 pm at the West Side Theatre West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street, Newman, CA. Tickets: general \$13/reserved \$15. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email info@westsidetheatre.org or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>
- 11/19/2006 -- Circle R Boys will perform from 2 to 5 pm at San Gregorio General Store, Highway 84 and Stage Road, San Gregorio, CA. For information, call 650-726-0565 or visit www.sangregoriostore.com/
- 11/20/2006 -- Crosstown will play from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Phil's Fish Market and Eatery on Sandholt Road, Moss Landing, CA. For information, call 831-375-2975 or visit [philsfishmarket.com](http://www.philsfishmarket.com)
- 11/20/2006 -- Homespun Rowdy will perform from 7:30 - 10:30pm at Amnesia, 853 Valencia St. (between 19th & 20th) San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-970-8336, email info@homespunrowdy.com or visit www.homespunrowdy.com
- 11/20/2006 -- Houston Jones will perform at Biscuits and Blue, 401 Mason St., San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-292-2583 or visit <http://www.biscuitsandblues.com/>
- 11/21/2006 -- Cabin Fever will perform from 6-9 pm at at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/22/2006 -- Sidesaddle & Company will perform from 6-9 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/23/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Wil-lowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 11/23/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 11/24/2006 -- The David Thom Band will perform at 8 pm at at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street, Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660 or email murphy@vom.com
- 11/25/2006 -- Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum will perform at the Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$17.50 advance and \$18.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-525-1171 or visit www.freightandsalvage.org
- 11/25/2006 -- Trailer Park Troubadours concert 8 pm at the West Side Theatre West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street, Newman, CA. General admission \$22. Reserved seats \$25. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email info@westsidetheatre.org or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>
- 11/27/2006 -- Courthouse Ramblers will play beginning at 7 pm at Phil's Fish Market and Eatery on Sandholt Road, Moss Landing, CA. Other musicians are welcome to join in for a bluegrass picking party for the second set starting about 8 pm. For information, call 831-375-2975 or visit [philsfishmarket.com](http://www.philsfishmarket.com)
- 11/27/2006 -- Barefoot Nellies will perform at 8:30 pm at Amnesia, 853 Valencia St. (between 19th & 20th) San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-970-8336.
- 11/28/2006 -- Saucy Dogs will perform from 6-9 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/29/2006 -- Diana Donnelly & the Yes Ma'ams will

CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

Continued from B-13

- perform from 6-9 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit <http://www.samsbbq.com>
- 11/30/2006 -- Keith Little & Jim Nunally will perform from 7:30 - 10:30 pm at the First Street Cafe Upstairs, 440 First Street, Benicia, CA. For information, call 707-745-1400, email firststcafe@pacbell.net or visit <http://www.firststcafe.com>
- 12/2/2006 -- The Spillit Quikkers perform from 11 am to 1 pm at Hoppy Brewing Company, 6300 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA. For information, call 916-451-4677, email teeroy@hoppy.com, or visit www.hoppy.com
- 12/2/2006 -- Americana Jukebox featuring the Mad Cow String Band 9 pm at the Knockout, 3223 Mission Street (at Valencia), San Francisco, CA. \$8 cover charge. Other Bands TBA. For information, call 415-550-6994, email wrestler@theknockoutsf.com, or visit <http://www.theknockoutsf.com>
- 12/2/2006 -- Houston Jones will perform at the Black Rose Pub & Restaurant, 2074 Armoury Drive, Santa Rosa, CA. For information, call 707-546-7673
- 12/2/2006 -- Utah Phillips concert sponsored by the Fresno Folklore Society, 7:30 pm at the Fresno Art Museum, 2233 North First St., Fresno, CA. Tickets are \$18 advance and \$20 at the door. For information or tickets, call 559-431-3653 or visit www.fresno-folkconcerts.com
- 12/7/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 12/7/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 12/7/2006 -- The Mighty Crows will perform at the Prince of Wales Pub, 106 E. 25th Avenue, San Mateo for a NCBS First Thursday. For information, call Patti Garber at 650-490-0709, email pgarber@bigplanet.com, or visit <http://www.grizzlypeakbluegrass.com>
- 12/7/2006 -- Dark Hollow will perform at the Atlas Café, 3049 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA. For information, call JimBo Trout at 415-648-1047, email shout@jimbotrout.com or visit <http://www.atlascafe.net>
- 12/10/2006 -- The Witcher Brothers will perform at 8 pm at the Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor, 17828 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills, CA. Annual Holiday Pickin' Party and potluck. Tickets are \$20 per person. For information or tickets, call 818-282-9001 or visit www.pickinparlor.com
- 12/14/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- 12/14/2006 -- Salt Martians will play from 5:30 - 7:30 for Happy Hour at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Call (805) 899-3900 for dinner reservations. For information, visit <http://www.tupelojunction.com>
- 12/15/2006 -- Bluegrass Revolution and the Circle R Boys will perform at the Plough and Stars, 116 Clement St. (between 2nd & 3rd Ave.), San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-751-1122, or visit <http://pweb.jp.net/%7Ejgilder/plough.html>
- 12/16/2006 -- Darol Anger's Republic of Strings will perform for a Redwood Bluegrass Associates Concert with Scott Nygaard, Brittany Haas and Chris Webster at the First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View, CA. For information or tickets, call 650-691-9982 or visit www.rba.org
- 12/19/2006 -- The Christmas Jug Band will perform at 8 pm at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information, call 510-525-1171 or visit www.freightandsalvage.org
- 12/21/2006 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232.
- Music Classes**
- 11/6/2006 -- Bluegrass Ensemble Class, 8 to 9:15 pm with Barry Solomon at the Alameda School of Music, 1307 High Street (corner of Encinal Ave.), Alameda, CA. For information, call 510-769-0195, email barry6661@earthlink.net or visit www.alamusic.com
- 11/13/2006 -- Bluegrass Ensemble Class, 8 to 9:15 pm with Barry Solomon at the Alameda School of Music, 1307 High Street (corner of Encinal Ave.), Alameda, CA. For information, call 510-769-0195, email barry6661@earthlink.net or visit www.alamusic.com
- 11/24/2006 -- Fiddling for Violinists workshop, 7:15 pm at the Mt. Diablo Unitarian Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA. For information, call 925-935-9295 or visit www.singingwood.com/horizon
- 11/27/2006 -- Bluegrass Ensemble Class, 8 to 9:15 pm with Barry Solomon at the Alameda School of Music, 1307 High Street (corner of Encinal Ave.), Alameda, CA. For information, call 510-769-0195, email barry6661@earthlink.net or visit www.alamusic.com
- Festivals**
- 11/10/2006 - 11/12/2006 - Four Corner States Bluegrass Festival in Constellation Park, 5 miles E of Hwy 60 in Wickenburg, AZ. For information, call Julie Brooks at 928-684-5479.
- 12/1/2006 - Brookdale Bluegrass Festival featuring Chojo Jacques, Faux Renwahs, Houston Jones, Jimmy Chickens, Mossy Creek and more at the Historic Brookdale Lodge, Brookdale, CA. NCBS Winter Festival. Stage shows plus open mics, tweener sets, underwater banjo contest and lots of jamming. Advance tickets now on sale. More bands TBA. For information, visit <http://www.brookdalebluegrass.com>
- 12/16/06 - 5th Annual Celtic Christmas show, 7 pm at the Sonora Opera Hall, 94 N. Washington St., Sonora, CA. Bands include the Black Irish Band, Mick Lucey Group, Joe and Maureen Murtagh, The Stepsisters (Irish Dance) and more. There will be a wine and brew bar by the Historic Sonora Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are \$13 advance and \$15 at the door. For information, call 209-543-7725. For advance tickets, email nicbeat@mlode.com.
- 1/5/2007 - 1/7/2007 - River City Bluegrass Festival at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, OR. Featuring Emmylou Harris, John Reischman & the Jaybirds, Rhonda Vincent & the Rage, Asleep At the Wheel, David Bromberg & the Angel Band, Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers, Longview, Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands, The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience, Tony Rice & Peter Rowan and host of local bands. For tickets or more information, call 503-282-0877 or visit www.rivercitybluegrass.com.
- 2/1/20-2007 - 2/4/2007 - 2nd Annual SuperGrass at the Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center is Bakersfield, CA. Sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. Bands include J.D. Crowe & the New South, The Isaacs, The Grascals, Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper featuring Audie Blaylock, Foghorn String Band, Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen, Special Consensus, High Country, Lost Highway, John Reischman & the Jaybirds, Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands, Kids on Bluegrass and the Bluegrass Brothers. Other activities include LoarFest West, Thursday Dinner Show, a Friday Squaredance, and much more. Advance tickets on sale through 12/1/2006. Please see the ad in this issue for a ticket order form, or visit www.cbaontheweb.com for credit card ticket orders.
- 2/18/2007 - 2/25/2007 - 9th Annual ETA Bluegrass Cruise from Ft. Lauderdale, FLA to the Eastern Caribbean. Bands include Marty Raybon and Full Circle, Chererholmes, Audie Blaylock and Michael Cleveland, Lorraine Jordan & Carolina Road, Mark Newton Band, Tim Graves & Cherokee, Wildfire and others. For information or reservations, call 888-711-7447 or visit www.cruise-eta.com/bluegrass.htm.
- Music Camps**
- 11/17/2006 - 11/19/2006 -- Far-West Folk Alliance Region - West 3rd Annual Conference at the Sacramento Marriott, Rancho Cordova, CA. Conference features workshops, panels, seminars, exhibit hall, showcases, jamming and more. For more information, email tinkersown@comcast.net or visit www.far-west.org.
- Jam Sessions**
- Sunday**
- Alameda - Regular Jam Session from 6-8 pm every Sunday at the Alameda School of Music, 1307 High St., Alameda, CA. The 1st and 3rd Sundays are Bluegrass and 2nd and 4th Sundays are Swing/Jazz nights. Separate rooms are available for different skill levels, and a professional player will always be on hand to facilitate the jams. All skill levels welcome. For information, contact Barry Solomon at 510-501-2876 or email barry6661@earthlink.net
 - Berkeley - Bluegrass Jam every Sunday at 7 pm at the Jupiter Brewpub, 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, contact Kurt Caudle at 510-649-0456 or email weelitzo@pacbell.net
 - Castro Valley - California Old-time Fiddlers Association Jam from 1:30 to 5 pm on the 4th Sunday of every month at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St., Castro Valley, CA. For information, call 925-455-4970.
 - Chico - Bluegrass Jam from 2-5 pm on the 1st Sunday of every month at the Shade Tree Restaurant, 817 Main St. (between 8th & 9th Streets), Chico, CA. For information, contact Sid Lewis at 530-894-2526 or email sidlewis420@yahoo.com.
 - Coulterville - Celtic and Old-time Jam on the fourth Sunday of every month at the Magnolia Saloon in the Hotel Jeffrey, 41 Main Street, Coulterville, Ca. Slow Jam from 2 to 3:30 pm and open session from 3:30 to 5 pm. For information, call 209-962-6455; email donmilam@yahoo.com or visit www.hoteljeffreyygold.com.
 - Crescent City - Bluegrass Jam from 6-8 pm every Sunday at the United Methodist Church, 7th & H Streets, Crescent City, CA. Everyone welcome especially newer players. For information, contact George Layton at 707-464-8151 or email ke6tkn@juno.com.
 - San Francisco - Bluegrass Jam from 3-6 pm on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at Progressive Grounds Coffee Shop, 400 Courtland Ave., San Francisco, CA. For information, email larrythe241@yahoo.com
 - Orangevale - California Old-Time Fiddlers' Association Jam Session on the 2nd Sunday of every month from 1 to 4:30 pm, Orangevale Grange Hall, 5805 Walnut, Orangevale, CA. For information, call 916-966-9067.
 - Palo Alto - Bluegrass Jam session the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at Fandango Pizza in the Alma Plaza Shopping Center, 3407 Alma Street in Palo Alto, CA. For information, contact Annie Zacanti at 650 494-2928 or email azacanti@pacbell.net.
 - San Francisco - Bluegrass Jam at 6 pm on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at Progressive Grounds Coffee Shop, 400 Courtland Ave., San Francisco, CA. For information, email larrythe241@yahoo.com.
 - San Jose - Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association Jam from 1 to 5 pm on the 1st Sunday of every month at Hoover Middle School, Naglee & Park Streets, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-730-1034 or visit www.scvfa.org.
 - San Luis Obispo - Bread and Jam Session from 5:30 to 8:30 pm the 3rd Sunday of every month at Utopia Bakery, 2900 Broad Street, San Luis Obispo, CA. For information, contact Roger Siminoff at 805-474-4876 or email siminoff@siminoff.com.
 - Santa Margarita - Bluegrass jam session sponsored by the CBA in collaboration with Solomon's Café on the first Sunday of every month from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Solomon's is a great meeting and eating spot located 15 miles south of Paso Robles and 15 miles north of San Luis Obispo. For more information, contact Roger Siminoff at 805-474-4876 or email siminoff@siminoff.com.
 - Sebastopol - Bluegrass Gospel Jam from 2-5 pm on the 4th Sunday of every month at the Sebastopol Christian Church, 7433 Bodega Avenue Corner of Bodega & Jewell Ave., Sebastopol, CA. Bring your acoustic instruments & favorite old hymns/gospel songs to lead. For information, contact Jack & Laura Benge at 707-824-1960 or email bengeatlarge@sbcglobal.net
 - Sutter Creek - Old-time and Irish Jam session from 1 to 5 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month at Belotti's Bar on Main St (Hwy 49) in Sutter Creek, CA. For information, contact Masha Goodman at 209-296-7706; email masha@banjodancer.com; or visit www.banjodancer.com.
 - Thermalito - Bluegrass Jam on the 4th Sunday of every month from 1-4 pm at the Thermalito Grange, Thermalito, CA. For information, call 530-589-4844.
- Monday

CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

- Alameda – Bluegrass Jam every Monday at McGrath's Irish Pub on the corner of Lincoln and Stanton in Alameda, CA. For information, contact Darby Brandli at 510-533-2792 or email darbyandbruno@comcast.net.
 - Mountain View – Bluegrass Jam, 7:30 pm every Monday at the Red Rock Café, 201 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA. For information, call (650) 967-4473.
 - Oakland – Bluegrass Jam at 8 pm every Monday beginning at 6 pm at the Baja Taqueria, 4070 Piedmont Ave. (near 41st Street), Oakland, CA. For information, call Joe Howton at 510-547-2252 or email TRman2323@aol.com.
 - San Diego -- Open Mic and Jam from 6 to 9 pm on the 4th Monday of every month at Godfather's Pizza, 5583 Claremont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA. For information, email Mike Tatar at staghorn2@cox.net.
 - Signal Hill – Bluegrass Jam Session every Monday from 7 to 10 pm at Curley's, 1999 E. Willow St., Signal Hill, CA. For information, call 562-424-0018.
- Tuesday**
- Berkeley – Bluegrass jam session every Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 at the 5th String Music Store, 3051 Adaline St., Berkeley, CA. The jam is hosted by Tim Hicks and is open to all skill levels and is given in an instructional environment. For information, email jgroopman@gmail.com.
 - Brookdale – Bluegrass jam session every Tuesday at 8 pm at Brookdale Lodge on Highway 9 in Brookdale, CA. For information, call Eric Burman at 831-338-6433.
 - Dublin – Bluegrass Jam on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at Dublin Heritage Center, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin, CA. For information, call 925-803-4128.
 - Escondido – Bluegrass Jam every Tuesday from 7 to 10 pm at the Round Table Pizza, Ash and Washington Streets, Escondido, CA.
 - Granada Hills – Band performance and Bluegrass Jam from 7 to 10 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Baker's Square, 17921 Chatsworth Street (at Zelzah) in Granada Hills, CA. Sponsored by the Bluegrass Association of Southern California (BASC). For information, call 818-700-8288 or 818-366-7258.
 - Los Gatos – Bluegrass Slow Jam at 8 pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at the Lupin Naturist Resort, Los Gatos, CA. For information, contact Buck Bouker via email at buck@lupin.com.
 - Millbrae – Bluegrass Jam on the 4th Tuesday of every month at Sixteen Mile House, 448 Broadway, Millbrae, Ca. For information, call 650-692-4087.
 - San Diego – Bluegrass Jam, bands and open mike from 6 to 9 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Godfather's Pizza, 5583 Claremont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA. Come hungry, as we get a donation from each item sold there; just tell them you're with the San Diego Bluegrass Society. For information, contact Mike Tatar via email at staghorn2@cox.net.
 - Truckee – Bluegrass slow jam on the 1st Tuesday of every month, 6 pm at Between the Notes Music Store, Truckee, CA. For information, call Matt Milan, 916-276-1899.
- Wednesday**
- Palo Alto – Bluegrass Jam from 7-10 pm every Wednesday from 7 to 10 pm at Fandango Pizza, in the Alma Plaza Shopping Center, 3407 Alma Street in Palo Alto, CA. For information, call 650-494-2928 or visit www.TheBluegrass.com.
 - Placerville – Bluegrass Jam on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 7-10 pm at Hidden Passage Books, 352 Main St, Placerville, CA. For information, call 530-622-4540 or 530-626-8751.
 - San Francisco – Bluegrass and Country Jam on the 1st Wednesday of every month at the Plough and Stars, 116 Clement St. (between 2nd & 3rd Ave.), San Francisco, CA. For information, contact Jeanie or Chuck Poling at 415-751-1122.
 - Santa Rosa – Old-Time and Bluegrass jam on the last Wednesday of every month at The Black Rose Pub, 2074 Armory Drive, Santa Rosa, CA. For more information, call Don Coffin at 707-995-0658 or Ricky Rakin at 707-824-9376.
 - Sonoma – Acoustic Jam Session beginning at 7:30 pm on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street, Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660 or email murphy@vom.com.
- Thursday**
- Corte Madera -- Marin Bluegrass Jam on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 7:30 to 10 pm at the Marin Lutheran Church, 649 Meadowsweet, Corte Madera, CA. For information, visit www.carltonemusic.com
 - Morgan Hill – South County Jam 6-8:30 pm on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at Good Life Café, on the corner of Monterey & 2nd Street, Morgan Hill, CA. For information, call Jac Stone at 408-782-1029 or email onesta@ix.netcom.com.
 - Napa – Bluegrass and Fiddle Jam session every Thursday night from 7:30 to 10:30 pm in Napa. For information and location, call 707- 226-3084.
 - Sacramento – Bluegrass jam session every Thursday from 7 to 10 pm at The Fifth String Music Store, Alhambra & Streets, Sacramento, CA. For information, call 916-442-8282.
 - San Francisco – Bluegrass and Old-time music jam on the 4th Thursday of every month at the Atlas Café, 3049 20th Street at Alabama, San Francisco, CA.
 - Ventura -- Bluegrass Jam from 6 to 9:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at Zoey's Cafe, 451 E. Main Street in Ventura, CA. All skills welcome. For information, contact Gene Rubin at 805- 658-8311 or email gene@generubinaudio.com or visit http://home.earthlink.net/~generubinaudio/index.html.
- Friday**
- Felton – Bluegrass Slow Jam on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7-9 pm at 1145 El Solyo Heights Dr, Felton, CA. For information, call Barbara & Eric Burman at 335-3662.
 - Jamestown – Bluegrass Jam from 7 to 9:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at Smoke Cafe, on Main Street in downtown Jamestown, CA. For information, email mandobil@bigvalley.net.
- Saturday**
- Fremont – Bluegrass Jam Session on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at Mission Pizza and Pub, 1572 Washington Blvd., Fremont, CA. For information, call 510-651-6858 or visit www.missionpizza.com.
 - Fresno – Bluegrass Jam session at Temperance - Kutner School, Olive Ave & N. Armstrong Ave, Fresno, CA. For information, contact Gerald L. (Jerry) Johnston at 559-225-6016; email tophawker@yahoo.com or visit http://www.KRBLUE.NET.
 - Long Beach – Jam Session from 1-6 pm at Fendi's Cafe, 539 E Bixby Road, Long Beach, CA. For information, call 562-984-8187.
 - Marysville – Regular jam session from 4-7 pm on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Brick Coffee House Cafe, Marysville, CA. For information, call -530-743-0413 or 530 701-5090.
 - Sebastopol – CBA Jam Session every Saturday from 2 to 5 pm at Catz Roastery, 6761 Sebastopol Avenue in Sebastopol, CA. (1st & 2nd Saturday – Old-time, bluegrass, old-country and more; 3rd Saturday – standard Bluegrass and last Saturday – pickers choice.) For information, call 707- 829-6600.
- Attention bands, promoters, venues – if you would like to have your performances, concerts, festivals or jam sessions listed in Bluegrass Breakdown and on the CBA website, please send your information to CBA Calendar Editor Suzanne Denison at bgsbreakdown@volcano.net.



You could be the lucky winner of this beautiful Martin guitar!

Model: Martin D18V

- Mahogany Blocks/Dovetail Neck Joint
- Body Size -- D-14 Fret
- Top -- Solid Adirondack Spruce with Old Style 18 Rosette
- Scalloped 5/16" top braces
- Solid Genuine Mahogany back with Style 18 purfling
- Solid Genuine Mahogany
- Solid/6 String No Diamond/Square Taper head stock
- Solid East Indian Rosewood /Large Old Style Logo heel stock
- Solid Black Ebony heel cap and fingerboard

Suggested retail price (MSRP) -- \$3,300.00
Donated by the 5th String Music Store -- Berkeley

Here's how you can win:

1. If you are a current CBA member -- renew your membership and pay for 5 years and your name will be entered in the drawing. If you pay for 10 years -- you'll get 2 entries.
2. If you join the CBA and pay for 5 years -- your name will be entered in the drawing.
3. If you recruit new members for the CBA *and* they pay for 5 years -- BOTH of your names will be entered in the drawing.

*This offer is good from June 1, 2006 until February 3, 2007
The Drawing will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2007 at the CBA's SuperGrass Festival in Bakersfield, California. You need not be present to win.*

To Join the CBA or Renew Your Membership:

- Use the form on page A-2 of this publication
- Renew or join online at www.cbaontheweb.org

If you have recruited a new member for 5 years be sure to have them write your name on the membership form with "recruited by"



BAKERSFIELD

**Indoor Bluegrass Festival -- February 1 - 4, 2007
at the Bakersfield Holiday Inn Select and Convention Center**

- **J.D. Crowe & the New South** • **The Isaacs** • **The Grascals**
- **Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper Featuring Audie Blaylock**
- **Foghorn String Band** • **Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen**
- **Special Consensus** • **High Country** • **Lost Highway**
- **John Reischman & the Jaybirds** • **The Bluegrass Brothers**
- **Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands** • **Kenny and Amanda Smith Band**
- **Frank Solivan's Kids on Bluegrass** • **Nashville Mandolin Ensemble**

*Sunday GospelFest with LeRoy "Mack" McNeas featuring The Isaacs
Plus LoarFest West Features and Workshops to be added*

Spacious, beautiful facility with special Bluegrass room rates, dining

Friday Dinner Show (Dinner Extra -- Reservations required) Show Included in Festival Tickets

Saturday night Squaredance Music by Forghorn String Band

**facilities and a lounge setting for after hours band performances.
*Advance Discount Tickets Now on Sale!***

*Use the ticket order form below, or purchase on-line at www.cbaontheweb.org
or Purchase with a credit card at www.cbaontheweb.org*

ADVANCE TICKET ORDER FORM

Please send me the following tickets for the 2nd Annual SuperGrass Festival, February 1-4, 2007:

CBA Member Advance Tickets (Until 12/1/2006)	
4-Day Adult	\$80
4-Day Senior (65 and over)	\$70
4-Day Teen (13-19)	\$40
3-Day Adult	\$65
3-Day Teen (13-19)	\$32
Non-Member Advance Tickets	
4-Day Adult	\$95
4-Day Teen (13-19)	\$48
3-Day Adult	\$75
3-Day Teen (13-19)	\$38
Single Day Tickets*	
<i>*No discounts -- purchase only through Rabobank Arena box office or on-line through Ticketmaster</i>	
Thursday only	Adults \$25/Teen \$13
Friday only	Adults \$30/Teens \$15
Saturday only	Adults \$35/Teens \$18
Sunday only	Adults \$25/Teens \$13
Gate Ticket Prices	
No member discounts available	
4-Day Adult	\$105
4-Day Teen (13-19)	\$52
3-Day Adult	\$80
3-Day Teen	\$40

CBA Member Advance Tickets (6/15/2006 - 12/1/2006)	Name _____
___ 4-Day Adult \$80	Address _____
___ 4-Day Senior (65 and over) \$70	City _____
___ 4-Day Teen (13-19) \$40	State _____ Zip _____
___ 3-Day Adult \$65*	Phone _____ Email _____
___ 3-Day Teen (13-19) \$32*	Mail ticket order form and check or money order payable to California Bluegrass Association plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
Non-Member Advance Tickets	SuperGrass Tickets
___ 4-Day Adult \$95	c/o Nancy Zuniga
___ 4-Day Teen (13-19) \$48	37761 Cardinal Lane
___ 3-Day Adult \$75*	Squaw Valley, CA 93675-9723
___ 3-Day Teen (13-19) \$38*	For information, call 559-338-0026 or email: 57silverhawk@inreach.com
<i>*Please specify which 3 days</i>	for more information, please call
___ Dinner (served at Friday Concert) \$20	
CBA Member No. _____	
Date of order _____	
Total Enclosed: \$ _____	

SuperGrass Tickets
c/o Nancy Zuniga
37761 Cardinal Lane
Squaw Valley, CA 93675-9723
For information, call 559-338-0026 or email: 57silverhawk@inreach.com
for more information, please call

Advance Ticket Deadline is December 1, 2006
Credit Card orders at www.cbaontheweb.org