

SOUVENIR PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA
BLUEGRASS
ASSOCIATION

Father's Day Bluegrass Festival

40th Anniversary



June 18-21, 2015 ~ Grass Valley
Nevada County Fairgrounds



Nashville Bluegrass Band Good Ol' Persons Reunion
Kentucky Colonels Reunion David Grisman Bluegrass Experience
The Bluegrass Patriots Reunion Music Camp All-Stars
Carl and Judie Pagter and Friends Jumpsteady Boys
Keith Little and the Little Band Chris Henry and the Hardcore Grass
Adkins and Loudermilk Molly Tuttle and Friends
The Spinney Brothers Blue Diamond Strings Steep Ravine
and of course, Kids on Bluegrass!

www.cbaontheweb.org

The Father's Day Bluegrass Festival

Welcome!

The California Bluegrass Association welcomes you to our 40th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival. We know that you will enjoy your weekend with us at the beautiful Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, the Bluegrass Capital of California.

The California Bluegrass Association is a non-profit, all volunteer organization, founded in 1974, to preserve and promote Bluegrass, Old Time, and Gospel Music in California. We encourage you to visit our Membership Booth and learn the benefits of membership. We presently have over 2700 voting members in California and thirty-nine other states and Canada. We hope you will join or renew your membership at the membership booth in the inner fairgrounds. Make this "your" organization and learn about the many membership benefits.

The Father's Day Bluegrass Festival is produced by our volunteer members and promises four days of fabulous music on three stages, jamming, workshops, Youth Programs, Kids on Bluegrass, Luthiers' Pavilion, Vern's Beer and Wine Garden and a large concession area with food, drink and crafts.

General Information: Camping

Camping is in the rough on the festival site and those who come early may camp Sunday through Wednesday, June 13th-17th for a daily fee of \$15/tent and \$20/RV on a first come, first served basis. Designated tent-only camping is available (see map or ask at gate).

Handicapped Camping

There are a limited number of special accommodation camping spaces available for those with handicaps. Advance reservations were required by May 1, 2015. However, handicapped campers will be accommodated if possible. We cannot promise sites with hookups and/or a view of the

stage; however, we will do our best to meet your basic needs. We will provide some transportation in a golf cart this year for those with special needs. Information about this service will be available at the Gate or at Festival Headquarters.

For those with dogs

1. Owners must have proof of all required vaccinations, vaccinations must be up-to-date, and dogs must have ID tags on their collars.
2. By bringing their dog to the festival the owner accepts all liability for any injury or property damage caused by their dog and the owner will be solely responsible for any and all cost of repairs, fines or levies by any agency or other party. The California Bluegrass Association maintains no liability for any actions of the dog or its owners.
3. Dogs must be on a short leash, not to exceed six (6) feet, while being walked.
4. Dogs must be confined to a pen or a RV or on a short leash while in camp. No free ranging tethers are allowed.
5. Owners will be required to remove their dog from the grounds if the dog becomes a nuisance by continually barking (for a single time or multiple short intervals) or in any other manner that disturbs other campers or people passing by. This will be strenuously enforced.
6. Dogs should not be left alone for periods of time longer than 45 minutes to an hour.
7. Owners must clean up after their dogs. It is owner's responsibility to have all the necessary supplies to ensure that other festival attendees have a good experience while at the festival.
8. Dogs will only be allowed in the main camping area. Tent campers in the "Tent Only" area near Gate 4 will not be allowed to keep dogs. Tent Campers with dogs may camp in other areas on the fairgrounds.
9. Dogs will not be allowed at any time (during Music Camp or the Festival) inside the fenced area (near the stages or vendor areas).
10. Dogs are not allowed in the water ditch or the lake.

Helpful Information

Bring regular lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Seating is strictly "bring your own" and chair height must be lower than 37" in the center section. Anyone may sit in an empty chair until that chair is reclaimed by its owner.

Food and drink concessions are on site and food and non-alcoholic beverages may be brought into the audience area (no glass allowed) in picnic baskets or coolers.

Historic Grass Valley and Nevada City are a short automobile drive away and offer banking, restaurants, grocery shopping, camping-supply purchases and tourist and recreational opportunities.

The weather can be hot during the days and cool during the evenings, so dress appropriately. Sunscreen and hats or visors help keep you from burning during the heat of the day and a jacket or sweater can be very comforting during the evening performances and for jamming afterward. The Festival will be held rain or shine and there are no refunds.

Bring your acoustic instruments and join in the fun. A large part of the enjoyment of our festival is the spontaneous jam sessions that spring up throughout the fairgrounds during the festival. There is a wonderful opportunity to share some music and make new friends. (Remember your jamming etiquette.)

Parents are responsible for their children at all times. Please be sure you know where your children are and what they are doing. There is an organized children's program with schedule times listed in the program; however, this is not a day care service. Parents must either remain with their child/children or return to pick them up at the conclusion of each segment of the program.

Help maintain the cleanliness of the grounds and restrooms. Deposit all trash in available bins and recyclable containers in appropriate bins.

The Festival is produced by volunteers and we ask for your cooperation in abiding by the rules

which are a necessary part of such a large event. The California Bluegrass Association Board of Directors and volunteer festival personnel have thought out these rules carefully in order to ensure your safety and satisfaction.

Please read the following rules and regulations carefully, and give us your full cooperation. If everyone follows these simple guidelines, we can all enjoy our festival days together in harmony, and listen to some wonderful music!

Rules and Regulations

In order to facilitate the enjoyment of the California Bluegrass Association's 40th Annual Festival, the following rules and regulations will be in effect during the Festival.

- DO NOT REMOVE YOUR ID BAND - You will be banded when your ticket is taken at the front gate. No replacements will be made unless you purchase another ticket.
- NO ALCOHOL or display of public drunkenness and disturbance is permitted in the audience area. Persons who interfere with the enjoyment of the rest of the audience will be asked to leave the area.
- NO AMPLIFIERS OR ELECTRIC INSTRUMENTS are allowed in the camping areas.
- SCOOTER OR SKATEBOARD RIDING AND ROLLER-BLADING OR SKATING are prohibited on the festival grounds until Monday after the festival.
- BICYCLE RIDING -- Is allowed in the campground area but not in the inner Fairground. Children are required to wear helmets in accordance with California State law.
- Single person battery operated vehicles used by the handicapped or people with medical problems are allowed.
- NO OPEN CAMPFIRE - Keep a close watch on camp stoves, barbecues, lanterns, etc. Make sure they are completely out when not in use.
- NO ROPING OFF AREAS - except by festival officials. Due to the large number of campers, "saving a spot" for a friend who is coming later is not allowed. If your group

wants to be together, try to arrive about the same time.

•NO SMOKING in the audience seating area. Please be considerate of your fellow audience members and smoke around the perimeter or camping areas.

•DOGS AND CATS are allowed on a limited and controlled basis. Cats are allowed in RVs in the RV section only. Dogs are allowed as long as the rules for dogs (see rules previously listed) are followed.

•NO PETS of any other species are allowed on the fairgrounds during the time that the CBA has possession of the grounds.

•VIDEO RECORDING OF ARTISTS' STAGE PERFORMANCES - is PROHIBITED unless specifically allowed and permission is indicated by a sign displayed near the stage stating that video recording is permitted. If permitted, this permission applies only to the artist on stage at the time the sign is displayed.

•CONSERVE WATER AND ELECTRICITY - Campers and RVs may draw electrical power only from designated outlets. Water faucets and connections are scarce and should be shared.

•KEEP YOUR GENERATOR USE MINIMAL - if you must run a generator on your RV to charge your battery or for any other reason, please keep the time minimal. Do not use your generator after 11 pm or before 8 am.

The California Bluegrass Association reserves the right to deny admission to anyone, and/or to have anyone removed from the fairgrounds if necessary or desirable at the discretion of the Festival Director or the CBA Board of Directors.

For more information:

Please visit our festival website: www.fathersdayfestival.com or the CBA website: www.cbaontheweb.org for information about our association and the events we produce throughout the year. You can also request a sample copy of our monthly newspaper, Bluegrass Breakdown, at our Membership Booth.

Welcome! Please enjoy the copy of the cba's monthly paper, the Bluegrass Breakdown, inserted in this program



Handicap Taxi at Grass Valley

SERVICE FOR THE HANDICAPPED AT FDF 2015

At this year's Father's Day Bluegrass Festival, Mike Martin will be coordinator for a service helpful to attendees who require help getting around. A golf cart has been donated to pick up and return handicap members to and from the stage area. To schedule a pick up call Mike Martin at 707-333-5784 or ask anybody with a radio to call for handicap taxi. Thank you, in advance, to his volunteer crew.



YOUR 2015 CBA FATHER'S DAY FESTIVAL ARTISTS

In alphabetical order

Adkins & Loudermilk

Two of bluegrass music's most admired players, Dave Adkins and Edgar Loudermilk, joined forces with the official formation of Adkins & Loudermilk in November 2013. The band is comprised of Dave Adkins, Edgar Loudermilk and Glen Crain who have been with the band since its formation. Jeff Autry and Zack Autry joined the band in October 2014 and Chris Wade joined the band in December 2014.

Dave Adkins (Lead Vocals, Guitar). Fans are blown away by the powerful and impressive vocals by singer, songwriter and guitarist Dave Adkins. In February 2014, Mountain Fever Records released Dave's solo album, Nothing to Lose. This well-received project included numerous singles that dominated the bluegrass radio charts.

Edgar Loudermilk (Lead Vocals, Guitar). Edgar Loudermilk certainly has music running through his veins. A relative of the famous Louvin Brothers and being

surrounded by music at an early age, he was no surprise he was only nine when he began playing bass in his family's band. In 2006, Loudermilk took over the bass playing and singing duties and became the newest member of 3rd Tyme Out, replacing longtime bass player Ray Deaton in July, 2007. Late 2013, he left that band, and partnered with Dave Adkins to form the new Adkins & Loudermilk.

Loudermilk is also an impressive songwriter having written all twelve songs on his first album titled Roads Traveled and all 15 songs on his October 2013 Mountain Fever Records' release, My Big Chance Tomorrow.

Glen Crain (Dobro). Crain has been around music all his life. He started playing drums as a small child, and as a teenager learned to play bass. At the age of 25, he started learning Dobro and lap steel. Glen has performed with numerous bands over the years and enjoys all

types of music. But, his passion is bluegrass. "Playing with Adkins and Loudermilk is like getting together with old friends and playing music. These guys are fun. I've always loved family harmony, and they sing together like family, a refreshing new/old sound," says Glen.

Zack Autry (Mandolin). He started playing the mandolin at age 8 and the fiddle around 9-10 years old. He is a self-taught musician and singer who plays mandolin and fiddle chiefly, although he also plays guitar, and has a smooth, strong voice capable of a wide range.

Jeff Autry (Guitar). Jeff is a guitarist of extraordinary ability. His lead lines are smooth and lightning fast and tasty, and his rhythm playing propels the music with that unmeasurable quality that bluegrass players call "Drive".

Barry Crabtree (Banjo). Most recently, he has been performing with the James King Band. Barry was born and raised in Clay

City, KY and began playing the banjo at age 7. He's most widely recognized from the 11 years he spent with Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers.

He was also part of the group Wildfire.

Barry is admired among banjo players for his aggressive and fast picking but to the trained listener, he's also exceptional at playing behind a singer and providing tasteful back-up to the group. It's a unique style that is not easily imitated.

Adkins and Loudermilk.



Rules for dogs

CBA Summer Music Camp & FDF 2015

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11. SERVICE ANIMALS: Only trained service animals or contracted animal acts are allowed on the Fairgrounds. Under current disability regulations "emotional support animals" are not allowed as they are not specifically trained to perform a task in support of a person with a disability. The California Bluegrass Association will follow the Nevada County Fairground policy for pets in the "inner" (Music Camp/audience/concession area) Fairgrounds. Only SERVICE animals will be allowed within the inner Fairgrounds during the CBA events June 14-21, 2015. Dogs should be indentified by vests.

Blue Diamond Strings



Blue Diamond Strings.

This special all-star band features a wonderful lineup. Jody Stecher: mandolin, banjo, vocals; Kate Brislin: guitar, banjo, vocals; Eric Thompson: guitar, mandolin, vocals; Suzy Thompson: fiddle, vocals; Paul Shelasky: fiddle; Paul Knight: bass.

Two renowned duos and two guys named Paul have joined forces to play a joyful amalgam of bluegrass, old time music, and blues. The music of these experienced, innovative, powerful musicians and singers, as they bring to bear 50 years of collective music making to an outstanding repertoire, is exciting, compelling, satisfying, and —surprising. Breath-

taking vocals, superb chops and deep knowledge of many styles of traditional music make for the spontaneous combustion that is Blue Diamond Strings.

Paul Shelasky was twice California State Fiddle Champ. Jody and Kate were twice Grammy Finalists and won several Indy awards for their influential duet recordings. Suzy and Eric are dedicated to the pursuit of weird and obscure old-time American music, adding a bit of Puerto Rican hillbilly music to the mix. Paul Knight is a bass player in demand for his tone, touch, and timing. He also hosts a wildly eclectic music series that has found him

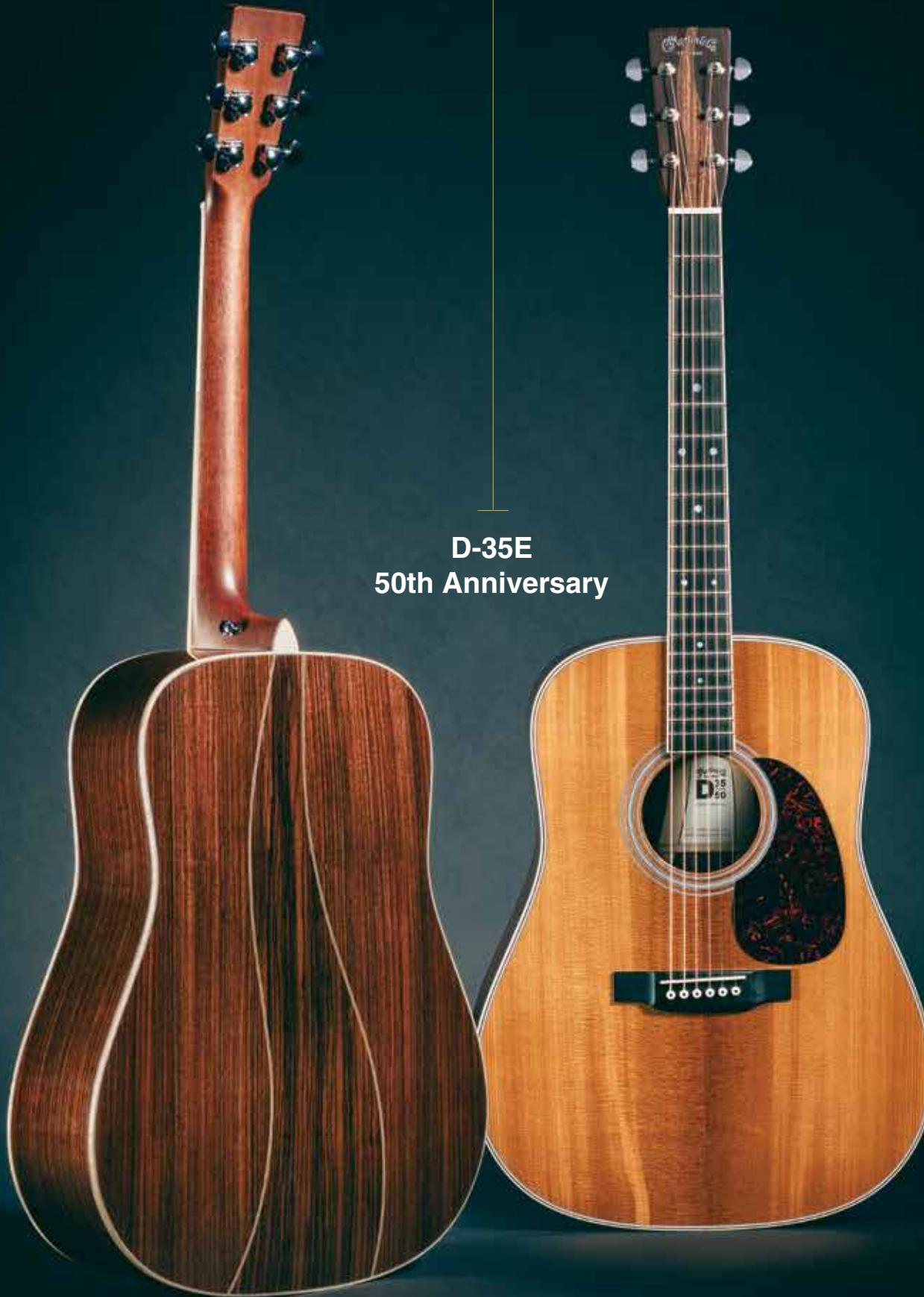
in the company of every imaginable style of musician, and it was he who brought the members of Blue Diamond Strings together as a band.

A partial "bandography" spanning 50 years: Asphalt Jungle Mountain Boys (Eric & Jody with Jerry Garcia), Any Old Time (Suzy, Kate), Blue Flame Stringband (Suzy, Kate, Eric), Arkansas Sheiks (Kate & Paul S), Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band, Perfect Strangers (Paul K, Jody), Kleptgrass (Eric, Jody, Paul, Paul), Good Old Persons, Blue and Lonesome (Paul S), Todalo Shakers, California Cajun Orchestra (Eric, Suzy), Bluegrass Intentions (Eric, Suzy, Jody).



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The Bluegrass Patriots Reunion

Jimmy Carter was President when the Bluegrass Patriots took the stage at the Colorado State University Student Center for their first gig in October of 1980. Over 34 years later, they will do a reunion show at Grass Valley this year.

Four of the original band members are still with the band: Glenn Zankey, Dan Rogers, Willie McDonald and Ken Seaman. Following the death of Rick Bradstreet in 2002, several musicians have taken Rick's spot in the band including Dan Mitchell, Ernie Martinez, Bobby Vickery and Jean Ballhorn.

The Bluegrass Patriots traveled far and wide over the course of three-plus decades including five tours of Ireland and the Brit-

ish Isles, two tours of Denmark/Sweden and several appearances in Alaska and Canada. They played most of the major bluegrass festivals in the U.S., and private parties for Former President Gerald Ford, Senator John Glenn and Governor Richard Lamm. The band served as goodwill ambassadors for bluegrass music everywhere they played, making countless friends over the years wherever they appeared.

The Bluegrass Patriots, one of the very, very few bands in the bluegrass world to have testimony from Bill Monroe, the father himself who said "...they're a wonderful group, they're fine entertainers, they're good musicians and they sing wonderful."



The Bluegrass Patriots.

The Good Ol' Persons Reunion

The Good Ol' Persons are Kathy Kallick, John Reischman, Sally Van Meter, Paul Shelasky, Bethany Raine, Trisha Gagnon

This reunion of a beloved Bay Area band is a chance for Kathy, John, Sally, Paul, and Bethany to revisit some of their favorite music from days gone by. They are joined by longtime GOP fan (and occasional member) Trisha Gagnon, whose enthusiasm for the repertoire is inspiring to the rest of the Persons.

Expect performances that go far beyond nostalgia, as these musicians have continued to evolve; their music is filled with dazzling playing, passionate singing, inclusive humor, and some really good ol' songs.

"When it comes to bluegrass, it doesn't get much better than this."

- Relix Magazine, in an overview of the Good Ol' Persons

The Good Ol' Persons were formed in 1975 as a result of the success of five women performing at a Freight & Salvage open mic. The name filled a spur-of-the-moment need and provided a wry comment on the dominant bluegrass culture of the era. It didn't take long for a band to form, for men to infiltrate -- and for the music to become more important than a gimmicky name.

The Good Ol' Persons were among the first bluegrass bands to feature the songwriting, lead playing, and vocal harmonies of women, and went on to be trendsetters in the incorporation of Latin, swing, folk, Cajun, and other musical genres into



The Good Ol' Persons - photo taken by Jon Sievert in 1985.

their bluegrass. The band released several albums, toured throughout the US (including Bill Monroe's Beanblossom Festival) and Europe, and had a profound influence on several generations of bluegrassers.

Since 1995, members of the band have continued to enjoy successful musical careers (as well as occasional GOP reunions). Kathy, Sally, and John are Grammy and IBMA award winners, Kathy and Paul were awarded Lifetime Memberships by the California Bluegrass Association, and all are outstanding performers, composers, producers, bandleaders, and teachers.

Kathy Kallick (guitar, vocals) leads The Kathy Kallick Band, has released numerous albums (always placing highly in the national bluegrass charts) filled with her extraordinary compositions, and continues to tour widely.

John Reischman (mandolin, vocals) also leads a band (The Jaybirds), has released numerous recordings featuring his remarkable tunes, and tours widely.

Sally Van Meter (dobro, vocals) has been a member of the bands of Hillman & Pedersen, Led Kaapana, and Jorma Kaukonen, and performed/recorded with everyone from Jerry Garcia to Mary Chapin-Carpenter to the Nashville Bluegrass Band to Leftover Salmon.

After playing for many years with Lost Highway, Paul Shelasky (fiddle, vocals) is currently a member of two outstanding area bands (Blue & Lonesome and The David Thom Band), and about to release his second album of fiddle tunes.

Bethany Raine (acoustic bass, vocals) has played a wide variety of music while raising three children and living in Texas and Louisiana.

Trisha Gagnon (acoustic bass, vocals), an honorary Good Ol' Person for band reunions in Canada, has played in John Reischman & the Jaybirds for more than a decade, was previously a member of the award-winning Canadian band Tumbleweed, and won the 2011 World Jam Championship in Scotland.

a new group, the David Grisman Quintet (DGQ,) which also included violinist Darol Anger and bassist/mandolinist Todd Phillips. Since then the DGQ has featured such stellar notables as Svend Asmussen, Hal Blaine, Vassar Clements, Stephane Grappelli, Mike Marshall, Andy Statman and Frank Vignola.

After recording for major and independent labels, David founded Acoustic Disc in 1990 and entered the most prolific period of his career, producing 67 critically acclaimed CDs (five of which were Grammy-nominated.) In 2010 he launched AcousticOasis.com, the first download website devoted to acoustic music.

Grisman has revisited his roots with the David Grisman Bluegrass Experience (DGBX). This very traditional group includes Keith Little on 5-string banjo, guitar and vocals, Jim Nunally on guitar and vocals, Chad Manning on fiddle, Samson Grisman on bass, with David on mandolin and vocals.

The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience

For nearly half a century, mandolinist / composer / bandleader / producer David Grisman has been a guiding force in the evolving world of acoustic music. His musical range is wide and deep — embracing many styles, genres and traditions.

An acoustic pioneer and innovator, David forged a unique personal artistic path, skillfully combining elements of the great American music/art forms — jazz and bluegrass with many international flavors and sensibilities to create his own distinctive idiom — "Dawg" music (the nickname given him by Jerry Garcia.) In doing so, he's inspired new generations of acoustic string musicians, while creating his own niche in contemporary music.

Grisman discovered the mandolin as a teenager growing up in New Jersey, where he met and became a disciple of mandolinist/folklorist Ralph Rinzler. Despite warnings from his piano teacher that it wasn't a "real" instrument, David learned to play the mandolin in the style of Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass music. He took it to Greenwich Village where he studied English at NYU, while immersed in the proliferating folk music scene of the early 1960s.

In 1963 Grisman made his first



The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience.

recordings both as an artist (Even Dozen Jug Band - Elektra) and producer (Red Allen, Frank Wakefield and the Kentuckians - Folkways.) In 1966 Red Allen offered David his first job with an authentic bluegrass band, the Kentuckians. Grisman began composing original tunes and playing with other urban bluegrass contemporaries like Peter Rowan and Jerry Garcia, with whom he would later form Old & in the Way.

David's interests spread to jazz

in 1967, while playing in a folk-rock group, Earth Opera. A failed attempt at learning to play alto sax turned him into a student of jazz musicianship and theory. His burgeoning career as a session musician gave him experience playing many types of music and opportunities to stretch the boundaries of the mandolin. His discography is filled with notables including Jerry Garcia, Stephane Grappelli, the Grateful Dead, John Hartford, Del McCoury, Bonnie

Raitt, Linda Ronstadt, Earl Scruggs, James Taylor and Doc Watson.

Dawg's instrumental style found a home in 1974 when he formed the Great American Music Band with fiddler Richard Greene. "Nothing against singers," said David, "but it became apparent to me that I could play 90 minutes without one. Besides, Elvis never called." Within a year, David met guitar wizard Tony Rice, who moved to California where they started rehearsing

CBA's 2015 Emerging Artist

Chris Henry and the Hardcore Grass



Chris Henry and the Hardcore Grass.

Chris Henry has been described by the International Bluegrass Music Association as the premiere Monroe-style mandolinist of his generation. After receiving a Song of the Year nomination for writing the song "Walkin' West to Memphis", his skill as a songwriter has been receiving national attention as well. With the good fortune of honing his skills with masters such as Peter Rowan and Shawn Camp, he has been winning audiences over with his in-the-moment blend of original and traditional material, refined harmonies, powerful picking, and humor.

The Hardcore Grass band is made up of Brad Bengel – bass and vocals; Cory Walker – banjo; Mike Wheeler – guitar and vocals; and special guest John Mailander – fiddle.

The Jumpsteady Boys

The Jumpsteady Boys got together in 2011 to represent the American string band tradition at the Australian National Folk Festival.

Bruce Molsky fell in love with old-time music as a teenager in the 1970s and moved from the Bronx to Virginia to learn fiddle and banjo directly from old masters like Tommy Jarrell. He tours as a solo performer and often collaborates with other notable roots musicians including Michael Doucet, Aly Bain and Nickel Creek.

Rafe Stefanini's passion for old-time fiddling drew him to move from his native Italy to the U.S. in the 1980s. He's played in many

fine old time groups including the L-7s and Big Hoedown; nowadays he often performs with his daughter Clelia.

Mike Compton's playing is strongly influenced by the black mandolin players of the 1920s and 1930s. He plays mandolin in the Nashville Bluegrass Band and was a member of the John Hartford Band.

Joe Newberry plays banjo in a duo with Mike and in the old-time band Big Medicine; he is also a well-respected songwriter who appeared on *Prairie Home Companion* several times earlier this year.



The Jumpsteady Boys.

The Kentucky Colonels Reunion

The CBA is proud to present a reunion of the Kentucky Colonels. This will be historic, as the concept for this reunion came from a conversation by the CBA's J.D. Rhynes. The band will consist of Roland White, mandolin; Roger Bush, bass; Herb Pederson, banjo and LeRoy "Mack" McNees, dobro; and taking the role of the late Clarence White on guitar will be Patrick Sauber. The Kentucky Colonels are one of the bands that inspired a lot of young folks to appreciate our music, much as Grisman did during his time with *Old and In the Way*. There's sure to be a lot of nostalgia for us fans "of a certain age".

The White brothers started out as the Country Boys in 1954, with their brother Eric. With the

addition of Latham, Mack and Sloane, and Roger Bush replacing Eric, they changed their name to the Kentucky Colonels in 1961. They soon became well-known on the bluegrass scene, performing at folk and country festivals. They appeared on Andy Griffith's television show twice. In 1964, they released their most popular album to date, *Appalachian Swing!*. The band's last performance was in the Fall of 1965. They reunited with Clarence White and performed a number of shows in 1973 as the New Kentucky Colonels, also known as the White Brothers. Clarence was killed by a drunk driver in July 1973. Before Clarence was killed, the White Brothers recorded an album called "Live in Sweden 1973."

Roland White. At an early age, White formed himself, his two brothers (Eric and Clarence) and his sister (Joanne) into a bluegrass band which performed locally. When the family moved to California, the group won a talent show on a local radio station, after which a television station hired them (minus Joanne) as The Country Boys.

After a two-year US Army enlistment, White re-joined the Country Boys, now renamed The Kentucky Colonels. In 1967, he had the opportunity to join the Blue Grass Boys, the backup band of his childhood idol Bill Monroe. He stayed with that group until 1969, when he joined the Nashville Grass, the backup band of Lester Flatt. White stayed with Flatt until 1973, when he, Clarence and Eric re-united as The New Kentucky Colonels. This only lasted a few months; he and Clarence were struck by an automobile as they loaded their equipment into their car after a performance. Roland White suffered a dislocated shoulder, but Clarence died in the accident.

White then joined another bluegrass group Country Gazette, remaining there for 13 years. In 1987, he joined the Nashville Bluegrass Band, staying with that group until 2000. After that he formed the Roland White Band, which is still active.

White is a noted mandolin teacher who gives many workshops and private lessons and has published book/CD instruction sets.



The Kentucky Colonels in 1964.

Kids On Bluegrass

For the 24th year in a row the Kids on Bluegrass will be performing once again on the main stage at the Fathers Day Festival in Grass Valley on Friday at 4:55 PM and on Saturday at 4:55 PM. Under the direction of Frank Solivan and his staff, The Kids on Bluegrass (KOB) have provided some great entertainment over the years and promises to do so again this year!

Over the years, we have watched many of these kids grow up into world class performers that we are all proud of. There is no doubt in my mind that the time spent in the Kids on Bluegrass program is very instrumental in kids developing not only their musicianship but their self confidence and self esteem. Today, because of this program, we can watch future bluegrass stars in the making, more kids that may someday grace our stages as professional performers. Won't you please come and enjoy the show that these wonderful kids want to present to you?



KOB play twice at our festival: Friday and Saturday at 4:55 PM. Don't miss this remarkable group of talented youth! Parents, this is a great way to get your child "hooked on bluegrass".

You are also welcome to stop by the rehearsal area in the tent area to watch how we put this show together. Rehearsals begin on Thursday morning at 10:00 Am and continue until the last show on Saturday. If you have a child that might like to participate please bring them to meet with Frank Solivan. Please join us for the Kids On Bluegrass!

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Keith Little and the LittleBand

Centered around the creative work of Keith Little (guitar-vocals), the LittleBand is a collaborative ensemble coming together to perform a diverse range of music. Rooted in bluegrass, gospel, and blues, the combination of fellow band members Michael Witcher (dobro-vocals), Josh Tharp (banjo-vocals), Luke Abbott (fiddle-vocals), and Steve Swan (string bass-vocals), produces a sound that is both authentic, and unique. "I see music more as a shape or color, than a style", observes Keith, "rich and round, like a supper plate, and this group can really serve it up. The material we perform is taken from both traditional and contemporary sources, performed on acoustic instruments, and human voices (often in vibrant harmony), and rendered with heartfelt care".

Keith Little / Guitar - Vocals:

A native of the Sierra Nevada foothills of northern California, Keith is a nationally acclaimed musician, vocalist, recording artist, composer, and producer. Born into a musical family, he was first introduced to string band music by his father, and quickly developed on the guitar, five-string banjo, mandolin, and fiddle. Shortly after performing his first professional engagement in 1969, Keith met and began performing with local bluegrass legends Vern & Ray. This collaboration would eventually evolve into his tenure with Rose Maddox and the Vern Wil-

liams Band, in what has proven to be a milestone in west coast country music. Over a career spanning forty years, Keith has been an important member of many national touring bands (Country Gentlemen, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Lonesome Standard Time), and has performed on the GRAMMY award winning recordings "The Grass Is Blue" and "Little Sparrow" by Dolly Parton, and "Another Country" by the Chieftains. An amazing vocalist, Keith is also a featured member of the David Grisman Bluegrass Experience, and the Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band. His compositions have been recorded by Crystal Gayle, Longview, Claire Lynch, Tim O'Brien, and the Whites (among others), and he is an honorary lifetime member of the California Bluegrass Association.

Michael Witcher / Dobro - Vocals:

Growing up the youngest of five in a musical and artistic family in the suburbs of Los Angeles, Michael found his voice playing the dobro at the age of fourteen. In less than a year, he was playing with his father Dennis, and brother Gabe in their Bluegrass band, "The Witcher Brothers". A featured member of the Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band, Michael has also recorded or toured with Dwight Yoakam, Fernando Ortega, Laurie Lewis, Tyler Hilton, John Paul Jones, Sara Watkins, The Gibson Brothers, Dolly Parton, Joan Osborn, Willie Wat-

son (Old Crow Medicine Show), and Chris Jones among others. Known for his rich tone and lyrical phrasing, Michael is also a highly sought after instructor.

Josh Tharp / Banjo - Vocals:

Originally from Arizona, Josh began playing the banjo in 1996, and shortly thereafter took up guitar, mandolin, dobro, and string bass. The son of a pastor, he grew up singing in church and is a masterful harmony vocalist. Josh performed with regional Arizona bands until 2006, when he joined with the long time Southern California based "Lost Highway", spending two years (and bringing him to California). A talented luthier, Josh attended the Roberto-Venn School of Luthiery and has been making guitars, mandolins, banjos, and dobros, ever since. He performs with the LittleBand on a banjo of his own making.

Luke Abbott / Fiddle - Vocals:

Luke has been turning heads in the California music scene since 1998, when he began playing at bluegrass festivals at the age of eleven, simultaneously learning all the standard bluegrass instruments (banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin). Besides many years as the banjo player in his family's band, he has performed with other artists, including bluegrass greats Kathy Kallick and Frank Wakefield. His 2010 solo album, "Take Me Home" was recorded live in studio; Vic-



Keith Little and the LittleBand. Keith will also be part of a Vern Williams Band Alumni Reunion - see the following page.

tory Music's review: "Luke's music completely blindsided me. He's got a great, crackly voice and is a monster picker."

Steve Swan / String Bass - Vocals:

Having spent his first two years in Virginia, Steve grew up in Davis, and Sacramento, California. Coming from an electric blues and jazz background, at age 24 he borrowed a Kay string bass from a friend and was off to the races playing bluegrass. In 1979 Steve joined a Contra Costa County group that featured fiddler John Blasquez and 17 year old Jim Nunally. An 18 month stint in the Chico band

"The Dusty Road Boys" with Sandy Rothman and Ed Neff was the setup to a move to San Francisco to spend two years with Butch Waller's "High Country". In 1998, Frank Wakefield summoned Steve for several California tours that included guitarist David Nelson. Steve also owns a guitar shop (Steve Swan Guitars), located in Burlingame, California, which specializes in both high quality new and used string basses, and in high quality new and used acoustic guitars and related instruments, since 1990. Steve brings to the group a steady beat, a steady personality, and a team player's spirit.

CBA Music Camp All-Stars

Each year, prior to the Father's Day Festival, the California Bluegrass Association produces a world class instructional music camp. The CBA Music Camp provides a chance for aspiring bluegrass and old-time musicians to spend several days learning from some of the most respected professionals in their fields. The Camp hires teachers from all over the nation and an effort is made to draw artists from the ranks of the Father's Day Festival performers. The CBA likes to share a bit of the Camp experience with the Festival audience. An impromptu band is put together using instructors from the Music Camp to give festival attendees a feel for the vitality and fun that comes when great performers collaborate.

This year the Music Camp All Stars will include some of the best and brightest bluegrass and old time artists in the nation - who just happen to be teachers at our camp!

The Nashville Bluegrass Band

With two Grammy Award-winning albums and two Entertainer of the Year honors from the International Bluegrass Music Association, four time IBMA Vocal Group of the Year, the Nashville Bluegrass Band, is no stranger to acclaim from critics and fans alike. The band's personnel are sought-after, first-call studio musicians, known for a superior level of creativity and a commitment to traditional music styles. Collectively and singularly, the members of NBB have virtually defined the modern bluegrass sound.

Nashville Bluegrass Band was initially formed to accompany Minnie Pearl and Vernon Oxford on a 1984 Grand Ole Opry package tour. Three original members are still in the group — Alan O'Bryant (banjo), Pat Enright (guitar), and Mike Compton (mandolin) — though Compton left for twelve years, replaced by Roland White until Compton rejoined at the end of 2000. The bass slot is held by Andy Todd, who came on board in 2005. The very talented Brian Christianson will play fiddle for NBB at Grass Valley.

In 2006 the Nashville Bluegrass Band was invited to the White House by President George W. Bush to entertain in honor of visiting president of China, Hu Jintao.

It was a very special honor for NBB as well — twenty years earlier, NBB had been the first bluegrass band ever to be permitted play in the People's Republic of China. NBB concerts have since spanned the globe, with performances in Egypt, Brazil, Crete, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Qatar, The Azores, Iraq, Israel, Denmark, Germany, France, Ireland, Switzerland, Turkey, Japan, Italy, Spain and England.

Although Nashville Bluegrass Band can be as traditional sounding as any pioneering bluegrass band, the group's repertoire has always been extremely varied, laced with blues compositions and songs from African-American gospel tradition. Two of NBB's eleven albums feature the legendary black gospel quartet Fairfield Four. All albums offer powerful bluegrass gospel numbers with that same incredible five-part-harmony style.

In 2002 NBB lead singer Pat Enright became one of the voices of the Soggy Bottom Boys, the fictional old-time trio led onscreen by George Clooney in the movie *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Alan O'Bryant, Mike Compton and Stuart Duncan appeared on the film's Platinum soundtrack and NBB began performing as a core element of the "Down From the Mountain" tour. The following year, Stuart

Duncan's fiddling was featured throughout the soundtrack of *Cold Mountain* and again, NBB became an integral part of the "Great High Mountain" tour which featured music from both movies.

The members of Nashville Bluegrass Band came together in Nashville from all points on the compass: Mike Compton is from Mississippi, Pat Enright from Indiana, Alan O'Bryant hails from

North Carolina, Brian Christianson is from Minnesota, and Andy Todd is a Tennessee native. These gifted musicians have joined together under a name that salutes their adopted hometown to create an unmatched all-American sound. Nashville Bluegrass Band's talents have been celebrated, literally, around the world, but the band's appeal is as basic as a small-town general store.



Festival favorites, the Nashville Bluegrass Band. Brian Christianson will replace Stuart Duncan (pictured here) on fiddle.

Vern Williams Band Alumni Reunion

We all know Vern Williams' story is inextricably linked to the California Bluegrass Association. By design or not, betwixt the Vern Williams Band and the CBA, they put California bluegrass on the map. And just as Bill Monroe's "Bluegrass Boys" was a proving ground for many future bluegrass stars, Vern Williams' band introduced many players to the bluegrass world who are still major contributors to the music.

So, for the 40th anniversary Father's Day Festival, Keith Little has assembled a band consisting of Keith Little himself, Del Williams, Ed Neff, Sue Averill and Chris Henry sitting in for Vern. If you are a fan of Vern Williams, the prospect of this band of alumni from his band, plus Chris Henry, playing the stage at the Father's Day Festival is big news indeed, and a must-see act among a lineup of many other stellar acts.

Why wasn't this act announced earlier, or more prominently? Well, Keith Little and his LittleBand were booked for the festival some time ago, and Keith got to thinking.

"Vern played the first festival", Keith says. "I thought it would be



Ed Neff, Keith Little, Vern and Del Williams in 1976.

fun to put together a band of musicians who had played in his band for this 40th anniversary. So much has changed, and back then, we never thought what we were doing would still be going 40 years - we were just having fun. In retrospect, we were involved in making California an actual bluegrass hub."

So Keith reached out to Del Williams, Ed Neff and Sue Averill and they were available and willing. Then Keith contacted Chris Henry

to round things out. "I was tickled by how easy it all came together!", said Keith. "We all knew the material - this is going to be a great show - I know I'm going to have a great time!"

The Vern Williams Band Alumni Reunion show will be on Friday night, June 19th - check your Festival program for exact time. Circle that information with a red Sharpie - this is one set you don't want to miss!

The Spinney Brothers

Nova Scotia's The Spinney Brothers could be considered by some to be an "overnight success" story even though they've been performing together for well over 20 years. With their latest three releases on Mountain Fever Records and an increased tour schedule that keeps them on the road over 200 days a year, the Canadian duo has been catapulted into a whirlwind of notoriety and recognition by the bluegrass and acoustic music scene.

Allan Spinney: guitar and vocals. Allan makes his home in Grand Pre, Nova Scotia with his wife Lynn. Raised in the midst of a musical family, it was country and bluegrass music that played the largest role in his musical upbringing. At a very early age, Allan demonstrated the desire to be a performer. Home recordings have documented his vocal abilities, as early as age six. In 1979 he started down the road to performing on stage. He began studying the guitar works of Smiley Bates, as well as the sounds of Bill Monroe & Flatt & Scruggs. It was the vocal harmonies of the Stanley Brothers however, that really appealed to Allan. He strongly encouraged his brother Rick to explore the music as well.

In 1991, Allan co-founded this band with his brother Rick. Throughout various personal changes, four independent recordings, and years of live performances, Allan continues to craft the Spinney Brothers style of traditional bluegrass music.

Rick Spinney: banjo and vocals. He was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, on August 5, 1966, one year to the day of his brother Allan. As Rick likes to point out, "he was his brothers first birthday present".



The Spinney Brothers from Canada.

Rick makes his home in Gaspereau, Nova Scotia, with his wife Machaela, son Kasey and his step-son Keegan.

In 1987, Rick obtained his first banjo. After some instruction from local musician Roy Thompson, and Canadian bluegrass great Vic Mullen, Rick was well on his way. Along with his brother, Rick began to study traditional bluegrass music. As a banjo player, the music of Earl Scruggs was very influential. Vocally, Rick and his brother worked on their own style of "brother duet" vocals. Rick is the main spokesman for the band.

Gary Dalrymple mandolin. Gary Dalrymple was born in 1969 in Halifax, the capital of Nova Scotia. Gary, like Allan and Rick, grew up in a musical family. Gary makes his home in Debert, Nova Scotia with his wife Jackie. His father, Carl was a local Country and Bluegrass musician. Gary began attending Bluegrass festivals with his family and soon had an uncontrollable urge to play an instrument.

He thought that he would play the 5-string banjo, but intuition steered him toward the mandolin

With the early inspiration of the pioneers of bluegrass music, he strived to develop his style of Traditional Bluegrass. It was the drones and double stops of Benny Martin and Paul Warren. Their style of fiddle convinced Gary that this music was extra special, and Gary decided to take up playing the fiddle as well.

Terry Poirier: upright bass. Originally from New Brunswick Canada, Terry is the youngest son of legendary Bluegrass music pioneer Eddy Poirier. He has been playing upright bass and singing in the Poirier Family band since the age of 5 and has appeared several times, as a youngster and pre-teen, on the Canadian ATV television series, "Up Home Tonight" show. Terry spent five years playing bass for the contemporary bluegrass band, Newtown and is also a DJ, Webmaster and Station Music Librarian for WorldWideBluegrass.org.

Carl and Judie Pagter and Friends

Carl Pagter and his wife Judie have been musical partners for over 40 years. Carl plays claw hammer banjo, while Judie plays appalachian style autoharp and, on occasion, guitar. Both sing and Judie has written many of their songs, including "Pick Pretty Flowers", "Carpenter's Mill", "The Old Union Church", "My Old Paint Mare", and "Where the Mountain Laurel Blooms". Carl has been lawyer/consultant and business



Judie and Carl Pagter.

executive in the Bay Area for many years with a home in Walnut Creek. Judie, originally from western Pennsylvania, now resides on the Pagter house farm in Standarsville, VA. The Pagters have led the band Country Ham since 1974 with 17 LPs and CDs to their credit along with an appearance at festivals and other events across the nation. Joining Carl and Judie are good friends and musical partners Harry and Cindy Liedstrand on fiddle and guitar, respectively, Corbin Pagter (Carl's son) on guitar and mandolin, and Matt Dudman on bass. Harry has played fiddle since age 4. He played with the late Kenny Hall, blind mandolin player and CBA life Member, as a member of the iconic Sweets Mill String Band in the early 1970s. He later became an elementary school teacher in Walnut Creek, from which he recently retired. His wife Cindy has played guitar since early adulthood and also plays old-time banjo. She is a health care executive in the Bay Area. Corbin Pagter lives in Berkeley and plays old-time and bluegrass music at every opportunity. He has been concentrating on playing the fiddle in recent years. Matt Dudman of Dixon, CA plays the stand up bass. He is proficient on mandolin and guitar as well and has played those instruments with a wide variety of Northern California bluegrass bands, while operating a recording studio, teaching law courses at nearby colleges and serving on the Board of Trustees of the Bluegrass Museum in Owensboro, KY. Other music "friends" may well include Carl's talented niece, Stacey Snodgrass on fiddle, Barb Rosner on bass, and others.

Steep Ravine



Steep Ravine.

Steep Ravine's soulful tunes and fiery instrumentals take roots and acoustic music in compelling new stylistic directions. Blending equal parts poetic lyricism and string-playing ingenuity, the San Francisco-based band has been racking up rave reviews for its debut album of original music, TRAMPIN' ON. During the spring and summer following its release, Steep Ravine gave notable performances at festivals including High Sierra Music Festival, Four Corners Folk Festival, Outside Lands, Strawberry Music Festival, and many more.

Principal lyricist Simon Linsteadt (guitar, lead vocals) and Jan Purat (violin, vocals) began playing music together back in high school in Marin County, later moving on to study music at UC Santa Cruz and the California Jazz Conservatory. They fortuitously met bassist Alex Bice (bass, vocals) through jam sessions in Santa Cruz. Leading into 2015, the band has been hard at work with their new record, THE PEDESTRIAN. With this project they are diving deeper into their musical roots, bringing in an increasingly wide range of collective influences. The album meanders through folk, jazz, bluegrass, funk, and popular music, and ultimately centralizes around songwriting and collaborative composition. It harnesses Simon's background in songwriting, folk, and jazz composition, Jan's deep relationship to classical and jazz violin, and Alex's tremendous strength as a rock solid acoustic bassist, percussionist, and drummer.

"Built on a solid foundation of gifted songwriting, fine singing, and acoustic string dexterity, [Steep Ravine] may well be opening up a whole new stylistic direction for musicians and listeners alike to follow." — Bluegrass Unlimited

Molly Tuttle and Friends

The friends will be John Mailander—fiddle; Sam Grisman—bass; and Wes Corbett—banjo.

With nearly two million viewers on YouTube and features in Bluegrass Now, Flatpicking Guitar and Acoustic Guitar magazines, Molly Tuttle is making a name for herself in the acoustic music scene. A virtuoso multi-instrumentalist and award winning songwriter with a distinctive voice, Molly has turned the heads of even the most seasoned industry professionals.

Growing up in a musical family, Molly has always been steeped in the bluegrass tradition. Through writing songs she has crafted her own sound that is unique and contemporary, but draws from bluegrass and folk influences. In recent years she has been awarded the Hazel Dickens Memorial Scholarship award from the Foundation for Bluegrass Music in Nashville, Best Female Vocalist and Best Guitar Player by the Northern California Bluegrass Society, music and composition Merit Scholarships to the Berklee College of Music in Boston, and 1st place in the prestigious Merlefest's Chris Austin Songwriting Competition.

Molly has been performing on stage since she was 11 and recorded her first album, *The Old Apple Tree*, at age 13. She has appeared on *A Prairie Home Companion*, at *Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival*, *Strawberry Music Festival*, *The Freight and Salvage*, and countless other festivals and venues

across the US, Canada, and Sweden. She is also a recent graduate of Berklee College of Music with an Artist Diploma in Guitar Performance.

John Mailander is an acclaimed multi-instrumentalist and graduate of the Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. As an accomplished performer, composer, teacher and recording artist, John has become known for his soulful voice on the fiddle, mandolin and various other stringed instruments.

John has shared the stage with renowned artists including the Alison Brown Quartet, Victor Wooten, Tim O'Brien and Christopher Guest. He was one of sixteen musicians selected to participate in the Savannah Music Festival's Acoustic Music Seminar in both 2012 and 13. John played fiddle in Steve Martin & Edie Brickell's musical, *Bright Star*, for its premier run in New York.

John currently maintains a busy performance schedule with artists including Molly Tuttle, Tony Trischka & Territory, Laurie Lewis & the Right Hands, Darol Anger and others.

As an instructor, John has taught at events including the Puget Sound Guitar Workshop, Augusta Bluegrass Week, Walker Creek Music Camp and CBA Music Camp. He is a dedicated private instructor, teaching students all over the country in person and over Skype.

John's debut solo album, *Walking Distance*, is a celebration of his time

spent and musical friends made in Boston over the past five years. Featuring some of the most distinguished musicians from the acoustic music world, the album has a unique group sound that is energetic, humorous and spontaneous, while also being deep, pensive and thoughtful. The album was recorded over four days at Dimension Sound Studios in Jamaica Plain, MA.

John plays instruments by Jon Cooper and Austin Clark, and endorses D'addario strings.

Bassist Samson Grisman from Mill Valley, California made his recording debut at age eight with John Hartford, Mike Seeger and his dad, David Grisman on their Grammy-nominated *Retrograss* album. Since then he has played and/or recorded with Darol Anger, Luke Bulla, Noam Pikelnny, Tim O'Brien, Bryan Sutton, Martin Taylor and Frank Vignola among others. He's a member of David Grisman's Bluegrass Experience and FolkJazz Trio, and has appeared on the *Grand Old Opry* with Jesse McReynolds and Ricky Skaggs. Sam currently resides in Nashville and plays in *The Brotet* with Alex Hargreaves, Nathaniel Smith and Dominick Leslie. Growing up in a music-rich environment exposed Sam to many players and styles, making him one of the "go to" bassists of his generation.

Wes Corbett—banjo: "I found my way to the banjo completely by accident, through the roots of the banjo.



Molly Tuttle brings a fine band.

We did an African percussion workshop at a Suzuki workshop that I was at. I started doing that as well as playing piano, and then from that started playing the kora, which is a West African traditional harp. It's basically a grandfather to the banjo. And then I heard Béla Fleck when I was 16 and just went banjo-crazy."

"Banjo has a reputation for being very unmusical, for being super loud, and for people having bad rhythm. It doesn't have to be that way. There's a whole vernacular that's only specific to the banjo and it doesn't apply to any other instrument. Bluegrass banjo is a really specific thing, because it's based

on the playing of Earl Scruggs. A lot of banjo players learn all of that, and then everything else is a mystery. Improvising with harmony and single-note melody as opposed to improvising within the bluegrass vernacular are two very different things. I definitely view my job as trying to balance those out."

"I play full-time in a band called Joy Kills Sorrow—it's bluegrass mixed with indie rock. I'm very involved with the acoustic scene in Boston. It's close-knit. We all grew up meeting each other and playing together at bluegrass festivals all over the country; it's like a little bubble that travels from one place to the next. Everybody is very supportive."

And to kick everything off....

Wednesday night at Vern's

Bill Evans: The Banjo in America

A pre-Festival, post-Music Camp celebration takes place at Vern's on Wednesday evening. *And* it's the kickoff to the Father's Day Festival so everyone camped at Grass Valley may come down and get started on watching some fine performances.

The whole shebang gets started on the Vern's Stage at 8 PM on Wednesday night. First up are performances by the very talented volunteer staff of the California Bluegrass Association Music Camp. You'll see the professional Music Camp teachers, we call 'em the Music Camp All-Stars, up on the main stage on Thursday at 2:55 PM. But the mighty tribe of teacher's assistants and other Music Camp volunteers are amazingly talented and put on a heck of a show together. Do not miss!

Well, we told you that to tell you this. After you have grabbed a seat for the Wednesday night show at Vern's, do not give up your place, because you're going to want to be front and center for the 8:50 set of the Father's Day Kick Off Extravaganza. It's none other than California banjo hero, Bill Evans who will present his *Banjo in America* show!

Bill Evans is an internationally known five-string banjo life force. As a performer, teacher, writer, scholar and composer, he brings a deep knowledge, intense virtuosity and contagious passion to all things banjo, with thousands of music fans and banjo students from all over the world in a career that spans over thirty-five years.

In Bill's solo concert presentation *The Banjo in America*, he presents the music from his chart topping CDs but also much more: he takes the listener on a musical adventure, following the banjo from its West African roots to the New World, performing musical examples from the 1700's to the present day on vintage instruments. From an 18th century African dance tune to the music of the Civil War, and from early 20th century ragtime to folk and bluegrass banjo styles to Bill's own incredible original music, *The Banjo in America* illuminates as well as entertains, exposing audiences to over 250 years of banjo music.

Bill is the author of *Banjo For Dummies* and *Bluegrass Banjo For Dummies*, two of the most popular banjo books in the world and is a CBA Music Camp veteran, having taught at 12 Music Camps. He has appeared on *A Prairie Home Companion* with Garrison Keillor and performed with the San Francisco Symphony. In addition, he has toured internationally on his own and with acoustic luminaries David Grisman, Peter Rowan, John Reischman, David Bromberg, Alan Munde and Tony Trischka, among many others. Bill's annual California Banjo Extravaganza concerts have attract-



Bill Evans.

ed sell out crowds throughout northern California and received standing ovations.

Bill's 2012 CD *In Good Company* features over 26 musicians, including the Infamous Stringdusters, Tim O'Brien, and Joy Kills Sorrow performing Bill's innovative compositions that blend jazz, classical, folk and world music influences. This release charted #1 on the Roots Music Report/Cashbox Folk and Bluegrass Charts and the Folk DJ-List chart and was named to many Best Of lists, including Pop Matters, Folk Alley and Prescription Bluegrass.1

You can learn more about Bill by visiting www.billevans-banjo.com.

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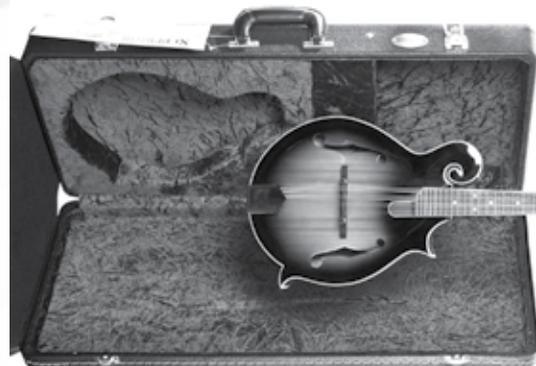


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CBA Instrument Drawing Ticket Order Form

Please send me the following tickets for the CBA Fundraiser drawings.

When purchasing multiple tickets, please indicate how many tickets you want for each instrument.

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<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ticket	\$5.00	_____	Martin D-16RGT Guitar
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Drawing to be held during the CBA Fall Campout, October 19-25, 2015

Need not be present to win

BLUEGRASS PIONEERS STAGE

MAIN STAGE

WERN'S STAGE

THURSDAY

Emcee Rick Cornish	
9:45-10:00a	Opening Comments
10:00-10:50a	Carl & Judie Pagter & Friends
11:00-11:50a	The Jumpsteady Boys
12:00-12:50p	Keith Little and the LittleBand
12:50-2:55p	Lunch and Workshops
Emcee Mike Tatar	
2:55-3:45p	Music Camp All-Stars
3:55-4:45p	Good Ol' Persons
4:55-5:45p	Chris Henry & the Hardcore Grass
5:50-7:40p	Dinner and Workshops
Emcee Jenny Williams	
7:45-8:35p	Adkins and Loudermilk
8:45-9:35p	The Jumpsteady Boys
9:45-10:35p	The Good Ol' Persons

8:00-8:45p	The CBA Music Camp Volunteers
8:50-9:30p	Bill Evans presents The Banjo in America
Wednesday Night Festival Kickoff!	

4:00p CBA Music Camp Student Concert. FDF attendees welcome to attend!
The Bluegrass Pioneers Stage is located at the end of the row of food vendors.

12:50-1:30p	35 Years of Trouble
1:35-2:15p	Old Belle
2:20-3:00p	True Life Troubadours

1:30p Memorial Service for Jim Carr

5:50-6:25p	The Dim Lights
6:30-7:05p	Bear Cat String Band
7:10-7:45	OMGG

5:50-6:40p Keith Little & the LittleBand
 6:50-7:40p Steep Ravine

FRIDAY

Emcee Jack Sadler	
10:00-10:50a	Steep Ravine
11:00-11:50a	Adkins and Loudermilk
12:00-12:50p	The Kentucky Colonels Reunion
12:50-2:55p	Lunch and Workshops
Emcee Lisa Burns	
2:55-3:45p	Vern Williams Band Alumni
3:55-4:45p	Adkins and Loudermilk
4:45-4:55p	Board Introductions
4:55-5:45p	Kids on Bluegrass
5:45-6:45	Dinner and Workshops
Emcee Suzanne Suwanda with John Murphy	
6:40-7:30p	The Kentucky Colonels Reunion
7:40-8:30p	Chris Henry & the Hardcore Grass
8:40-9:30p	Good Ol' Persons
9:40-10:55	The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience

Vern's serves beer from the Sierra Nevada Brewery and wine from the Guglielmo Winery from 11 AM to 10 PM.

Pioneers Stage Emcee... Paul Sato!

12:50-12:55p	Bill and Faye Down Awards: Paul Brewer and Les Massman
12:55-1:34p	Wendy Burch Steel & Redwood
1:39-2:18p	The Hossettes
2:23-3:02p	Rita Hosking Band

12:55-1:45p Carl & Judie Pagter & Friends
 1:55-2:45p Chris Henry and the Hardcore Grass

6:00-6:40p The Crooked Jades

SQUARE DANCE!!!
 5:50-6:50p - With the Jumpsteady Boys, Erik Hoffman caller. Held in the Whitney Pavillion. (See map on page P-16)



SATURDAY

Emcee Ray Edlund	
10:00-10:50a	Molly Tuttle & Friends
11:00-11:50a	The Bluegrass Patriots Reunion
12:00-12:50p	The Kentucky Colonels Reunion
12:50-2:55p	Lunch and Workshops
Emcee Eric Rice	
2:55-3:45p	Nashville Bluegrass Band
3:55-4:45p	The Bluegrass Patriots Reunion
4:45-4:55p	Awards Presentation
4:55-5:45p	Kids On Bluegrass
5:50-7:05p	Dinner and Workshops
Emcees Chuck Poling & JD Rhynes	
7:10-8:00p	The Spinney Brothers
8:10-9:00p	The Nashville Bluegrass Band
9:10-10:40p	The David Grisman Bluegrass Experience

12:50-12:55p	Bill and Faye Down Awards: Lolan Ellis
12:55-1:34p	Bean Creek
1:39-2:18p	One Button Suit
2:23-3:02	The Mighty Crows

12:55-1:45p The Spinney Brothers
 1:55-2:45 Blue Diamond Strings
 3:00-4:00 CBA Youth Academy Concert

6:00-7:00p MANDO MADNESS! With David Grisman, Mike Compton, Roland White, John Reischman, Ed Neff, Butch Waller and Chris Henry

5:50-6:40p Steep Ravine

SQUARE DANCE!!!
 6:45-7:45p - With Blue Diamond Strings, Erik Hoffman caller. Held in the Whitney Pavillion. (See map on page P-16)



SUNDAY

Emcee David Dickey II	
10:00-10:50a	Bluegrass Patriots (Gospel)
11:00-11:50a	Molly Tuttle and Friends
12:00-12:50p	The Spinney Brothers
12:50-2:00p	Lunch
Emcee Marcos Alvira	
2:00-2:50p	Blue Diamond Strings
3:00-3:50p	Nashville Bluegrass Band

12:50-1:55p Evie Ladin and Evil Diane

9:00a Chapel on the Bluegrass Pioneer Stage - Non-denominational service independently hosted by Jan & LeRoy McNeas.

12:50-1:40 CBA seminar: Founder's Forum. Hear from and speak to the people who were instrumental in founding the CBA.

WORKSHOPS

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THU - 12:50-2:55 PM

- “**GUITAR WORKSHOP**” Learn from someone who has time honored experience. Bring your guitar and have fun. Presenter: **Keith Little**. Site: Back Stage. Area B.
- “**DOBRO WORKSHOP**” Come join one of the very best dobro players! Bring your dobro. Presenter: **Mike Witcher**. Site: Old Maintenance Shop. Area D.
- “**OLD-TIME BANJO FEATURING CLAWHAMMER AND UP-PICKING STYLES**” UP tempo, UP capo-ing, UP the neck and down the flagpole, UP beat, and up your fun with this amazing workshop. Presenter: **Carl Pagter**. Site: By Ponderosa Hall. Area G.
- “**AUTOHARP: ALL THE BASICS**” Please bring your good playable autoharp, electronic chromatic tuner, tuning wrench, flatpick, thumbpick, fingerpicks. Presenter: **Tina Louise Barr**. Site: Over By The Entry Gate. Area I.

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THU - 5:45-6:45 PM

- “**BANJO WORKSHOP**” Come learn from a seasoned picker. Bring your instrument. Presenter: **Josh Thorp** from the **Little Band**. Site: Old Maintenance Shop. Area D.
- “**BASS WORKSHOP**” Learn bass and ask those questions you’ve been holding back. Bring your bass. Presenter: **Steve Swan**. Site: By Stage Right. Area E.

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FRI 12:50-2:55 PM

- “**BEGINNING BLUEGRASS GUITAR WORKSHOP**” Learn basic bluegrass strums, boom-chuck, walks, runs, transposing, chord numbering, and more. Written materials provided. Bring guitar and let’s have fun! Presenter: **Bill Jirsa**. Site: Old Maintenance Shop. Area D.
- “**HARMONY SINGING**” Learn principles and methods for singing harmony “on the fly”—without studying parts beforehand. You need to be OK with singing on pitch, but harmony-singing experience is not needed. Presenters: **Luke Abbott and Bronwyn Ciccone**. Site: By Stage Right. Area E.
- “**HOW TO BUILD A GREAT SOUNDING MANDOLIN FROM A KIT**” Presenter: **Roger Siminoff**. Site: Northern Mines Bldg. Area F.
- “**WHAT MAKES AN OLDTIME STRINGBAND WORK**” A stringband can take many forms and have many different instruments, but one thing holds ever true... the sum is always greater than the parts. The Jumpsteady Boys Mike Compton, Bruce Molsky, Joe Newberry, and Rafe Stefanini will offer tips and techniques to how to get a unified sound, as well as offer advice on how to structure tunes and songs to their full effect to dazzle and please and audience. Presenter: **The Jumpsteady Boys band members**. Site: By Ponderosa Hall. Area G.
- “**THE ART OF BANJO SETUP**” Tying the mechanics to the sound and playing experience. Presenter: **Monte Hendricks**. Site: Luthier’s Pavilion. Area H.
- “**AUTOHARP: BLUEGRASS JAM TECHNIQUES**” Come learn how to jam with a bluegrass band or in a casual circle. Presenter: **Tina Louise Barr**. Site: Over By The Entry Gate. Area I.

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FRI 5:45-6:45 PM

- “**BANJO SET-UP AND MAINTAINANCE**” How to adjust your banjo for best sound and playability. Presenter: **Greg Deering**, Site: Deering Banjo Display Tent. Area A.
- “**DOBRO WORKSHOP**” Learn some fine techniques from a pro. Bring your dobro Presenter: **Glen Crain** of **Adkins and Loudermilk**. Site: Back Stage. Area B.
- “**BEGINNING OLD TIME BANJO WORKSHOP**” Learn to play basic old-time 2-finger picking and clawhammer (frailing) banjo, even if you’re a total beginner. Hands-on workshop. BRING A BANJO. Presenter: **Dave Magram**. Site: Old Maintenance Shop. Area D.
- “**BLUEGRASS BAND GUITAR RHYTHM**” Mike will teach you the fundamentals of bluegrass rhythm guitar that will enable you to play in a band situation and will discuss techniques to support vocals and other instruments. Topics covered include band dynamics, playing with good tone and in good taste, playing in a groove, basic to advanced rhythm patterns, bass runs and G-runs. Presenter: **Mike Wilhoite**. Site: Stage Right. Area E.
- “**THE TORTURED HISTORY OF THE MISSOURI WALTZ**” Fiddle Tune histories with jokes, embellishments and insights. Presenter: **Joe Weed**. Site: Northern Mine Bldg. Area F.
- “**TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR PERFORMANCE**” Some of us who play music for an audience may experience stage fright. In this workshop you will learn a practical technique to help manage stress and reduce anxiety, muscular tension and adrenalin when you’re performing. Presenter: **Andrew Gootnick**. Site: By Ponderosa Hall. Area G.
- “**VOCAL WORKSHOP**” Come learn from from the finest in the business! Presenter: **Edger Loudermilk** and **Dave Adkins**. Site: By the Entry Gate. Area I.

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SAT 12:50-2:55 PM

- “**HOW TO PLAY A BANJO WITH TWO FINGERS**” Never played before? Don’t own a banjo? Come and find out how easy it is to play! We will provide the banjo for your first lesson. Join us for lots of fun. Presenter: **Greg Deering**. Site: Deering Banjo Display Tent. Area A.
- “**BASIC BLUEGRASS BANJO BACKUP WORKSHOP**” Learn to play backup behind bluegrass vocalists and instrumentalists. Hands-on workshop-- BRING A BANJO. Presenter: **Dave Magram**. Site: Old Maintenance Shop. Area D.
- “**MANDOLIN WORKSHOP**” Learn from one of our performing band members. Presenter: **Willie McDonald** from the **Bluegrass Patriots**. Site: By Stage Right. Area E.
- “**RECORDING ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENTS AND VOCALS IN YOUR HOME STUDIO**” More tips, tricks and the latest news. Presenter: **Joe Weed**. Site: Northern Mines Bldg. Area F.
- “**AUTOHARP - SOME CALYPSO & FUN TUNES**” Please join me with pens, notepads and instruments tuned to pitch. Presenter: **Judi Pagter**. Site: By Ponderosa Hall. Area G.

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SEE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR MAP OF WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

ACTIVITIES

Kid Fest Schedule

Note: Day Care is not provided. Parents need to accompany kids.

Lots of fun going on at Kid Fest! Family Oriented Activities, not a drop off day care! Parents must accompany their children under 12. Activities each day include: Arts and Crafts, sand and water play, Play-doh, lawn toys, fresh squeezed lemonade, and strolling musicians during crafts!

Thursday 12:00 noon-3:00p

Friday 11:00-3:00p

Saturday 11:00-3:00p

Kids On Bluegrass Program

Thursday - Saturday

10:00a - Rehearsals are held at Frank Solivan’s KOB camp in the tent camping area, near the fairgrounds entrance.

Friday - Saturday

4:55-5:45p - KOB performs on Main Stage!

Slow Jams

Thursday - Saturday

3:30-5:00p - Afternoon slow jam at Gazebo inside Main Festival entrance, near Vern’s audience area

2015 Old-Time Gathering

Thursday - Sunday

Lunch and dinner breaks - Attend workshops specializing in old-time music including Old-Time Stringband with the Jumpsteady Boys, Old-Time Banjo with Carl Pagter or Dave Magram, and Autoharp with Tina Louise Barr or Judie Pagter. See the Workshop Schedule on this page.

Thursday - Sunday

Attend performances by Jumpsteady Boys, Blue Diamond Strings, Carl and Judie Pagter and Friends, Bearcat Stringband, and the Crooked Jades. Please see the performance schedule on facing page.

Friday

5:50 - 6:50p - Square Dance with the Jumpsteady Boys and Erik Hoffman (caller) in the covered barn area behind/above the Sugar Pine Lodge. (There will be a map at the festival.)

Saturday

6:45 - 7:45p - Square Dance with Blue Diamond Strings and Erik Hoffman (caller) in the covered barn area behind/above the Sugar Pine Lodge.

Jim Carr Memorial Service:

Pioneer Stage at 1:30 pm on Thursday.

Please join with us as we pay our respects to this popular California bluegrass hero.

WORKSHOPS continued

**DINNER BREAK
SAT 5:45-6:45 PM**

- "FIDDLE WORKSHOP"**
Learn from a talented and experienced teacher! Presenter: **Bobby Vickery** from the **Bluegrass Patriots**. Site: By Stage Right. Area E.
- "STRINGS: HOW THEY WORK AND HOW TO PICK THE BEST ONES"**
It's about how strings vibrate, how they are made, and how to make choices when matching strings to your playing style and instrument. Presenter: **Roger Siminoff**. Site: Northern Mine Bldg. Area F.
- "THE THREE T'S OF BLUEGRASS GUITAR FLATPICKING"** Mike will teach you the fundamentals of Timing, Tone, and Taste as it applies to building bluegrass guitar breaks. Discussion topics include developing your internal clock and learning to play in time, finding your best tone, learning to play in good taste and developing your own voice or style. Presenter: **Mike Wilhoyte**. Site: By Ponderosa Hall. Area G.

CBA hosts scheduled slow jams

See Slow Jam schedule - page P-15

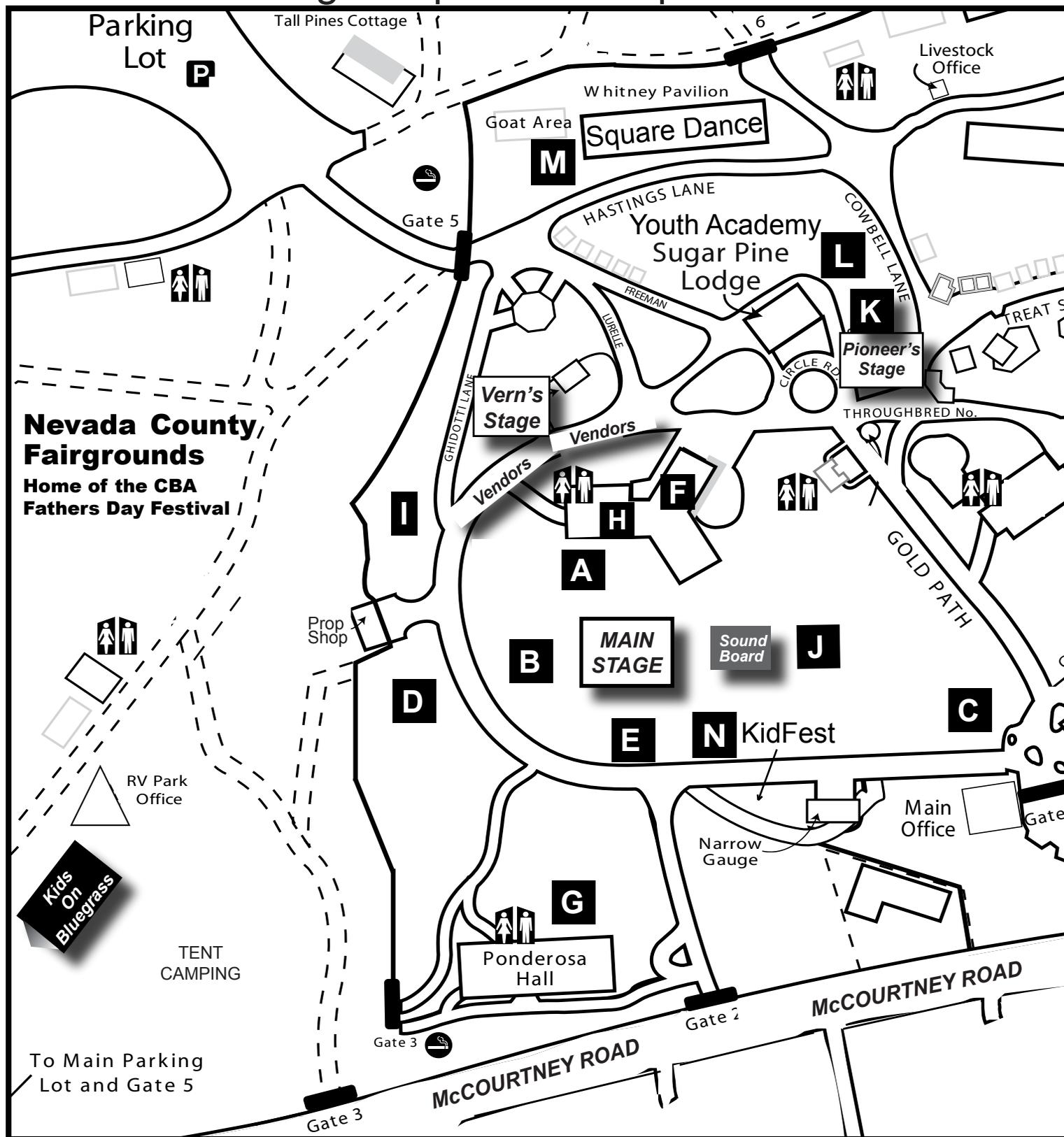
By **Dan Martin**

The Slow Jam is again being lead by Steve West and myself. It will happen Thursday- Saturday 3:30-5:00, inside the top gate in front of the gazebo near Vern's Stage, look for the signs inside the gated area. Bring songs you want to sing or play. We will be playing fiddle, gospel, and other popular jam songs. We will play them slowly at first, then faster after practice. Two or three chord songs, basic 1,4,5 tunes.

This is a slow jam mistakes are ok. We are here to learn and have fun. You don't need to play a song perfectly. We will spend time discussing jamming techniques. You should be able to play the basic chord for your instrument. If you are not sure you are ready, bring your instrument and either join the circle or sit in the back. You can pass on songs if you don't feel comfortable.

We will provide some chairs but it may be wise to bring one with you. We look forward to picking with you. Let's have some fun!

Stage Map / Workshop Locations



Nevada County Fairgrounds
Home of the CBA Fathers Day Festival

- Area A, Site: Deering Banjo Display Tent
- Area B, Site: Back Stage Area
- Area C, Site: By Administration Building
- Area D, Site: Old Maintenance Shop
- Area E, Site: By Stage Right
- Area F, Site: Northern Mines Building
- Area M: Square Dance Location

- Area G, Site: By Ponderosa Hall
- Area H, Site: Luthier's Pavilion
- Area I, Site: Over By The Entry Gate
- Area J, Site: Behind Main Stage Sound Board
- Area K, Site: Pioneers Stage
- Area L: Youth Academy Location
- Area N: KidFest

Father's Day Festival Kid Fest Program

See Kid Fest schedule - page P-15

Once again this year the California Bluegrass Association will host KidFest, a way-fun children's program at the 2015 Father's Day Bluegrass Festival, June 18-21. There will be tons of crafts, games, sand and water play, large motor play on the lawn, lemonade making, tie dye, face painting and an area for music and song, and who knows what else might happen at KidFest!

KidFest is under the direction of Kathleen Rushing who is also Director of the FunGrass program at CBA Music Camp, June 14-17. Kathleen is a retired

Kindergarten/Music Specialist and is known for her fun Bingo Schmingo Music www.bingoschmingo.com

KidFest will be located in a new spot this year! It will be in the fenced-in, kid-friendly area behind the CBA t-shirt booth. Look for signs pointing the way.

Activities are designed for ages 2-12. Parents need to accompany their children as this is not day care. Tentative times will be from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the Father's Day Bluegrass Festival.

Please!
Drop by the CBA membership booth!

World class stringed instruments!

Authorized dealers for Martin, Taylor, Blueridge, Cordoba, Cort and The Loar guitars, Kentucky and Wilson mandolins; Gold Tone and Flinthill banjos, Angels violins and fiddles, Cordoba and Cavanagh ukuleles.

Fully committed to supporting and promoting the local acoustic music community

Your one-stop music store for sales, instruction, repairs and resources.

One of our Featured Instruments

The Bluegrass General

HD28-V

An HD-28V with pre-war style bridge, Adirondack top and bracing. This guitar has a very robust bass and very clean treble. A wonderful guitar for both rhythm and lead, the Adirondack spruce gives this guitar a sound you may have found from a brand new Martin guitar, in the 1940's, without the associated price tag of vintage instruments. Perfect for those players seeking a Tony Rice style tone. Comes with Geib style case.



Come by our store and check out the selection of fine instruments!

**Open Jam Session Every Thursday evening
Check our website for upcoming concerts featuring nationally touring and local Bluegrass Bands**



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Quality Brands that Make Bluegrass Music Better!



2014 Vern's Stage artists

35 Years of Trouble

With an average age of just over 12 years old, 35 Years of Trouble is one of the youngest bands performing traditional and contemporary bluegrass and gospel songs in Northern California. All four members are veterans of the "Kids on Bluegrass" program at the annual Grass Valley bluegrass festival, as well as the kids program at the Good Old Fashioned bluegrass festival. In fact, it was while jamming together at a festival a few years back that the kids determined that their collective ages added up to 35 years. At last year's GOF festival in August, the band decided to reunite. Although they had taken a few years break, they are now playing regularly at street fairs and farmer's markets, and are now honored to have their debut on the Vern's Stage. The band features solid instrumental work and strong vocal trios, by (L to R) John Gooding (Vocals and guitar), Helen Ludé (vocals,



35 Years of Trouble.

mandolin, fiddle and guitar), Tessa Schwartz (vocals and fiddle), and Jake Gooding (bass).

The Bearcat Stringband

The Bearcat Stringband—Rowan McCallister, Robin Fischer, Allegra Thompson, and Ryan Finch—play throughout the Bay Area, catering to Bluegrass, Old-Time, Honky-Tonk, and Cajun Music appetites. Members of The Bearcat Stringband have played in many bands around the Bay, including The Drifter Sisters, The Spare Strings, The Midnite Ramblers, & TV Mike and the Scarecrows.

Robin Fischer - Fiddle: Robin picked up the fiddle in high school and has hardly put it down since. Under the mentorship of Chad Manning, she has been making a name for herself as one of the fastest-rising fiddlers in the Northern California bluegrass scene. Robin gives fiddle lessons in Berkeley, and also calls square dances. You can visit her website here: robinrfischer.com

Rowan McCallister - Mandolin, Vocals: Growing up with his parents' sizable collection of folk and country records, Rowan gained a serious appreciation of traditionally based music in high school, first playing guitar but soon moving on to mandolin and banjo. Rowan models his mandolin playing on the style of Bill Monroe, favoring bluesy tone and rhythm. He has been honing his craft playing in the East Bay bluegrass scene, and until its recent closing had been hosting the historic 5th String bluegrass jam in Berkeley. Rowan is available for mandolin, guitar, and clawhammer banjo lessons in the East Bay.

Allegra Thompson - Bass, Vocals: Allegra started out on the old-timey music path earlier than most. Daughter of local musicians Eric and Suzy Thompson, she was raised on a steady diet of American roots music, everything from Delta Blues to Appalachian fiddle tunes. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree; Allegra has inherited both her parents' love of traditional music as well as her mother's powerful singing voice.

Ryan Finch - Guitar, Vocals: Ryan is a multi-instrumentalist originally from Bishop, CA, now based out of the East Bay. He's been playing piano from an early age, and grew up surrounded by a vibrant community



The Bearcat Stringband.

of bluegrass and old-time musicians. On the day he set out for UC Berkeley, he decided to bring one of his dad's banjos along, and has since pursued his growing passion for traditional American music. Besides playing guitar and singing with the Bearcat Stringband, Ryan offers music lessons for bluegrass and old-time banjo, guitar, and mandolin lovers.

Bean Creek

The voice of Bean Creek is imbued with early country and mountain music, yet has a joyful and exuberant quality all its own. Their music is a soulful expression from a group of talented, experienced players who understand and love bluegrass music, and perform it with vigor and honesty.

Billy Pitrone: (vocals, guitar) pens songs that tell a story, and sings 'em like he was there. He has the unmistakable voice of a natural singer, and he pours his soul into every verse.

Sarah Eblen: (vocals, bass) has a wonderfully sweet and clear voice that charms listeners young and old, and her bass playing rocks the band as naturally as a mother her cradle.

Pete Hicks: (vocals, fiddle, mandolin) with his rough hewn fiddle strokes, honky-tonk voice and edgy mandolin, conjures up great old bluegrass, and great old country.

Rob Horgan: (banjo) is equally at home driving a Scruggs-style break, galloping along with an open back, or pulling in stylings of the melodic players, and he weaves it all together seamlessly with clarity and precision.



Bean Creek.

The Crooked Jades



The Crooked Jades.

The Crooked Jades, called "the finest string band in America" by The Boston Herald, are on a mission to reinvent old-world music for a modern age, pushing boundaries and blurring categories with their fiery, soulful performances. Innovative, unpredictable and passionate, they bring their driving dance tunes and haunting ballads to rock clubs, festivals, traditional folk venues and concert halls across America and Europe.

Known for their rare and obscure repertoire, beautiful original compositions, inspired arrangements and eclectic, often vintage instrumentation, The Crooked Jades began with band leader/founder Jeff Kazor's vision to revive the dark and hypnotic sounds of pre-radio music. With this old-time foundation, the band has created the unique Crooked Jades sound by exploring the roots of Americana and interweaving the diverse musical influences of Europe and Africa. Filtering these old-world sounds with universal and ancient themes through a post-9/11 lens, they seek to make sense of the future.

The current lineup of the Crooked Jades is a core trio of co-founders Jeff Kazor (vocals/guitar/harmonium) and Lisa Berman (vocals/slide guitars/banjo/harmonium), with Erik Pearson (vocals/banjos/ukulele/harmonium), and our newest member Emily Mann (fiddle/vocals).

CBA Music Camp Volunteer Band

The CBA Music Camp Volunteer Band is comprised of some of the instructional assistants of the CBA Music Camp. These people are all great musicians and supportive teachers, and also do much of the behind-the-scenes grunt work that makes the music camp run. Their friendliness, knowledge, and enthusiasm for the camp are a big part of the camp's success. They lead jams, teach elective classes, tutor struggling students, and offer support to the camp instructors in their classes. Now it's time to show up and support THEM, and enjoy this set they've put together for you. See them Wednesday evening.

2014 Vern's Stage artists

The Dim Lights

The Dim Lights are a bluegrass band based in Pacifica, CA. The Frankel family anchors the band featuring Dana Frankel on fiddle and vocals. Her father, Avram, provides lead and harmony vocals plus guitar, and Mom, Vicki, anchors the outfit on bass. Two veteran musicians, Larry Cohea and Matt Kendall lend their hands on banjo and mandolin, adding vocals as well. Avram, Larry and Matt are all fixtures on the Bay Area bluegrass scene, contributing to many local performing bands, but there's a special place in their hearts for The DLs. The Frankel's have lived in Pacifica since 1997.

The Dim Lights play every 4th Friday at the Pacifica Moose Lodge where they have built up a loyal following. Please join us for the next gig and the wonderful 'Moose' atmosphere. The DLs perform at other quality coast-



The Dim Lights.

side venues including The Surf Spot and the Pacific Coast Fog Fest. In addition, we play venues throughout the Bay area and have performed at festivals from Grass Valley to Fresno, CA.

Providing a fresh take on traditional bluegrass, and showcasing the talent of the teenage fiddling phenom Dana Frankel, The Dim Lights are available for festival, private party, street fair and other bookings. We regularly 'convert' those unfamiliar with bluegrass to this uniquely American musical genre and look forward to meeting you at our next gig.

Rita Hosking Band

Rita's style of country-folk has been lauded for story and sense of place, and her performances praised for capturing the audience. Honors include winner of the '08 Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest at the Sisters Folk Festival, finalist in the '09 Telluride Troubadour Contest, and more. "This California girl comes by her mountain-music sensibility with true authenticity, with original songs deeply rooted in her family's frontier experience," (Dan Ruby, FestivalPreview.com.) Rita's fans call her "the real deal." A descendant of Cornish miners who sang in the mines, Rita grew up with deep regard for folk music and the power of the voice.

Rita began recording and publishing in 2005 with *Are You Ready?*, and followed in 2007 with *Silver Stream*. Come *Sunrise*, her 2009 record, won Best Country Album Vox Pop in the 2010 Independent Music Awards. *Burn*, from 2011, was placed in the top 10 "Young Female Artist releases for 2011" by *No Depression* magazine, and listed as a "Hidden Gem of 2011" by the UK's *Observer*.

At Vern's Stage, Rita will appear with her husband and long time accompanist, Sean Feder on dobro, banjo



Rita Hosking.

and vocals. In addition to performing with Rita for 12 years, Sean has lent his talents in strings and percussion to a variety of collaborations with several notable rhythmic and melodic masters, such as Arthur Hull (Village Music Circles), Hershel Yatovitz (Chris Isaak) and Joe Craven.

To round out the band, North Carolina's (and now California's) Jon O'Brien will join in to play the upright bass, and Kora Feder, Sean and Rita's multi-talented daughter (as mentioned above), will add clawhammer banjo, mandolin, and harmony vocals.

For more information on the music of Rita Hosking, please visit www.ritahosking.com.

The Hossettes

Sharing a reverence for the soulful harmonies and powerful drive of the pioneering bands of bluegrass, the Hossettes (hoss-ettes) bring tremendous talent and energy to the stage. Featuring Jenny Lynn Williams (guitar), Angela Personeni (banjo), Hailey Pexton (mandolin), and Karen Wilhoyte (bass), the Hossettes impress audiences with duets, trios, and even an occasional quartet number. In addition to their traditional repertoire, they also perform original songs, which offer a fresh sound while maintaining the band's firm roots in classic bluegrass.

The Hossettes.



The Mighty Crows

Mighty Crows is an award-winning Bay Area bluegrass band with a traditional style and repertoire reminiscent of the seminal bluegrass acts of the '40s and '50s.

Past winners of Northern California Bluegrass Society's Band of the Year and Bluegrassin' in the Foothills Emerging Artists Competition, the Crows have received rave reviews at venues and festivals across California.

Formed in 2004, the band is built around the powerful trio singing of Chris Smith, Jeff Zieba, and Mark Wardenburg. With his stellar emcee work, band front man and South Bay bluegrass veteran Ken Torke shares his own unique brand of humor with the audience. In 2008, Larry Cohea joined the band adding his hard driving banjo and well-honed singing voice to the mix. Northern California Bluegrass stalwart Angela Personeni will be sitting in with the Crows on bass at Vern's Stage this year.



The Mighty Crows.

As a band, these guys are strictly old school. In the words of High Country's Butch Waller, "It doesn't get any more straight-ahead than that, you are all 'bluegrass boys' for sure."

Old Belle



Old Belle.

Old Belle is a San Francisco-based group that creates original acoustic music full of harmony and groove. They feature strong female harmonies, and draw from influences diverse as old bluegrass and country greats Doc Watson and Hank Williams to contemporary acts Della Mae and Eli Morrison and Cahalen West. Combined with childhoods spent listening to 90s country and a serious love of a sing-along chorus, Old Belle is a real treat for fans of fresh, original acoustic tunes. Their deep love of music, fun, and a well-tailored Texas tuxedo makes them outgoing and entertaining performers.

Old Belle Is:

Tonya Newstetter (lead vocals, guitar, songwrit-

ing) has been musical since she was a little girl, and her first memories are of singing folk songs with her dad accompanying on guitar. She has over 15 years of musical experience, with training in voice, music theory, cello, and clarinet. She is a founding member of Old Belle, and the band name pays homage to the beat up Plymouth Belvedere, Old Bel, that her dad drove when she was a little girl.

Ashley Conrad (mandolin, songwriting) was raised in Bakersfield, and country music is in her bones. She can name that tune faster than anyone we know, and lends a discerning eye to our arrangements along with tasty mandolin fills and chops. She is a founding member of Old Belle, and loves cats.

Niki Savage (harmony vocals, fiddle, songwriting) was recruited to Old Belle at a bluegrass jam in the Mission District of San Francisco. A regular at jams throughout the Bay Area and a native of Sonoma County, Niki brings a dedication to old-time and traditional bluegrass music. She has training in fiddle and voice, and her clear, strong harmonies round out Old Belle's vocal sound.

Mike Gubman (bass) joined Old Belle by taking a chance on a 'Bassist Needed' Craigslist ad. Mike has been gigging since he was in high school, and studied ethnomusicology while in college. He can play solid bluegrass bass, but has the versatility to take our songs anywhere they need to go. Raised in Chicago, he now has a home in Oakland where he can collect new instruments to his heart's content.



“EXP’s help my mandolin feel like a more substantial instrument.”

- Chris Thile



MANDOLINIST & MUSIC PIONEER

CHRIS THILE

NEW YORK NY

As a recent MacArthur Fellowship recipient, Chris Thile takes mandolin performance to new heights. He also takes EXP Coated Strings wherever he goes. With their longevity, playability, and robust tone, EXPs perfectly compliment Thile's innovative style, set after set.



2014 Vern's Stage artists

One Button Suit

One Button Suit is an exciting, hand-stitched, Sacramento-based string band that offers up tunes especially tailored for our California climate. They feature a unique blend of established musicians expertly weaving the traditional and funky tones of the past and present; with a repertoire of originals and bluegrass familiarities hinting at unconventionality.

Whether it's out on the town or simply lounging round the patio, we're sure this flexible ensemble will give you hours of carefree comfort! Your One Button Suit features Brian Burke on lead guitar, Tom Shewmake on mandolin and vocals, and Shad DeGiorgis on bass. Tim



One Button Suit

Tobias plays guitar and sings entire outfit together with her while Melissa Lincoln brings the fiddle and vocals.

The True Life Troubadours



The True Life Troubadours

The True Life Troubadours are a traditional bluegrass band from the greater Bay Area. These veteran players combine great musicianship, powerful harmonies, and a love for the traditional sounds of Bluegrass Music.

Dave Guarente – Banjo. Dave Guarente plays the banjo. Dave has been in the San Francisco bay area for over 30 years, playing with his own band, and many local artists. Dave plays "The Jedd Brothers", the 1930's style string band "Earthquake Country", as well as the traditional bluegrass band "Carolina Special". Dave has been a staff instructor at Sylvan Music in Santa Cruz for over 18 years.

Katya Polovina – Bass. Katya Polovina is known to capture the natural feel of jazz-singer-songs with her sweet vocals, while beating a solid two-feel on her acoustic bass. She moved from the central valley to San Francisco in the summer of 2011, and was swiftly immersed into bluegrass. Bluegrass seemed to offer a familiar comfort, since Katya's roots were in Christian Gospel and traditional jazz.

Katya has an established duo with Bill Murphy, with performances in Mountain View.

You may also recognize her from Hickstival performance, alongside Jimmy Grant and Paul Shelasky.

Rob Morris – Guitar. Born and raised in Chester County Pennsylvania, Rob brings an eclectic musical background to the group. He has performed solo and in groups spanning a wide range of musical styles including classical, Irish, contradance, rock, folk, and bluegrass. He's holding down the guitar duties for the Troubadours.

Victor Skidanenko – Mandolin. Victor has played in many bands during his musical career. He previously played in Pacific Ocean Bluegrass (banjo), Jenny Lynn and her Real Gone Daddies (guitar, vocals), and The Del Williams Band (mandolin), and now plays in Rock Ridge (banjo, guitar, mandolin, and vocals), The Central Valley Boys (banjo, vocals), and currently heads Vic S and the Big Moments (guitar, vocals). Apart from his bands, he has also performed with many musicians such as David Thom, Jim Nunally, Keith Little, and the Tuttles. Victor has been nominated six years running as a contender for the NCBS Banjo player of the year award, and for 2012, had nominations for both banjo and mando-

lin. He is now a professional music instructor, teaching guitar, banjo, mandolin, and vocals in San Jose and Palo Alto.

Margaret Green – Fiddle. Margaret previously played in the Four-Finger String Band (fiddle), the Allodola Violin Duet (violin), and also played violin in the De Anza Orchestra, the Palo Alto Philharmonic, and the San Francisco State University Orchestra, and currently plays violin and fiddle in the Montara Duet, fiddle in the Green Willow Girls, and guitar and fiddle in Vic S and the Big Moments. She graduated from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance in May 2011. She is a professional music teacher and teaches fiddle and violin in Palo Alto.

Wendy Burch Steel & Redwood

Wendy Burch Steel & Redwood play a unique cross-section of genres incorporating all the good and sweet aspects of folk, old-time, country, bluegrass and blues.

Bluegrass icon Laurie Lewis produced, played and sang on Wendy's debut CD, "Open Wings" in 2012, which has received rave reviews nationally and internationally, air play and interviews on various radio shows and Americana and Bluegrass publications.

Wendy is known for her deft angelic voice and spiritually touching original material. She was nominated for Female Vocalist of the Year for the past two years, with the Northern California Bluegrass Society. Her band members include some of the best Bluegrass and Americana players and singers in California and beyond:

Butch Waller, mandolin and vocals, is known locally and nationally for his innovative and tradition-based approach to his instrument. Butch was one of the first to play bluegrass music in

Northern California, and founded his own band, High Country in 1968. A gifted songwriter, Butch has penned several that are found in the repertoire of Wendy Burch Steel and Redwood

Glenn Dauphin, Guitar and vocals, has been performing with Bluegrass bands in the Bay Area for the past 30 years. He is Northern California Bluegrass Society's guitar player of the year for 2014. He also plays bass and guitar with California's two longest running bands, High Country and Sidesaddle and Company

Mary Gibbons, bass and vocals, has played and sung bluegrass, country music and her original material for over 30 years. She has played, recorded, and toured with The All Girl Boys, Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals, and The Fog City Ramblers. Since 2003, she has played with The Stadler Gibbons Band. With Wendy Burch Steel and Redwood, she lays down the low end of the rhythm law on bass and provides the high, high harmonies.



Wendy Burch Steel & Redwood.

Sound by: Paul Knight



Paul Knight is the best soundman on the west coast, and maybe beyond.

Knight has been working in live sound production since 1980, but went full time in '92. In 1994, Paul, also a sought-after bassist, became a 'double threat' in the bluegrass world (meaning he could get paid for two skill sets, maybe even on the same job) by becoming a specialist in live sound for acoustic instruments. Paul makes the Vern's Stage sound great every year.

Special audience area reserved for CBA honorees

Don't you think it's about time to treat our Lifetime Members and our Bill and Faye Downs Super Volunteer Award winners to a little extra something? A special perk just for them? Well, the Board of Directors feel it is!

New this year will be a special reserved seating area at the front of the stage as a way to honor these people, as well as providing them a special treat.

Each of these men and women have distinguished themselves by their extraordinary contributions in helping the California Bluegrass Association meet its mission...to preserve and promote the music we love. The CBA board of directors believes strongly that our Lifetime Members and our Super Volunteer Award winners have earned their spot front and center. Please give 'em a wave of thanks when you pass by.

**-Tim Edes, Chair, Board of Directors
California Bluegrass Association**

2014 Vern's Stage

OMGG



OMGG - a photo from back in the day.

MAX SCHWARTZ (17) of Berkeley has become a familiar name in the bay area's music community. Recently he has been playing jazz with the award-winning Berkeley High School Jazz Ensemble and leading their highest level quartet across the country to perform in national competitions, at which, this festival season, his group never lost one. In February, he was chosen to be the bassist in the GRAMMY® Jazz Combo, which performed at events in Los Angeles during Grammy week this year. Aside from jazz, he has been playing bass with Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands. In addition to performing, Max is the Teen Ambassador for the California Bluegrass Association and has been helping to plan activities at this year's Father's Day Festival in Grass Valley, CA. He has been getting a lot of attention for writing original music in styles such as bluegrass, funk, R&B, and fusion.

AJ LEE (17) of Tracy is one of the most well-known women in bluegrass music today. For instance, she has already been the subject of a Mother Jones article titled "Could This Kid Be the Next Allison Krauss?" She plays ukulele, banjo, mandolin, fiddle, and guitar, but what really sets her apart is her voice, rich, lovely, and full of mature feeling. She is known for her work with The Tuttles and AJ Lee, and

recently released a solo album, "A Song for Noah."

NATE SCHWARTZ (20) of Los Angeles is a student at UCLA studying composition. A sought-after composer for independent films and music production, Nate has become a polished producer and has advanced the careers of many of his fellow students. His band, Loop Garou, just released an album and now are high in demand for performing large venues. He also composes for and directs his own big band, Nate Schwartz & His Jazz Orchestra. He is also acclaimed for his work writing EDM (electronic dance music).

MARTY VARNER (19) of Worcester, MA is a student at Clark University and hosts his own radio show, "Ol' Dusty Trail". He has been playing mandolin since he was three years old and grew up going to bluegrass festivals sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association (CBA for short). His dedication to the authenticity of bluegrass music comes out when he performs. On Youtube, there is a video of him performing the fiddle tune "Old Dangerfield" with the one-and-only Michael Cleveland when he was 12 years old. He plays guitar and mandolin in the band, and keeps the roots of traditional bluegrass predominant in OMGG's repertoire.

Old-Time Gathering presents two square dances

By Steve Goldfield

Do you enjoy swinging your partner, do si do, promenade, and all those great moves in traditional square dancing? If so, we have two very hot bands and a great caller, Erik Hoffman, to lead you through your steps on Friday and Saturday nights in June. On Friday night, we feature the Jumpsteady Boys with four of the best old-time musicians alive (Bruce Molsky, Rafe Stefanini, Mike Compton, and Joe Newberry). On Saturday night, you can move to the sounds of Black Diamond Strings, which includes another equally

stellar group of folks (Jody Stecher and Kate Brislín, Eric and Suzy Thompson, Paul Shelasky, and Paul Knight). Both these dances are included in the price of your festival ticket and will be held in the early evening. You don't need to be an expert dancer. Erik will explain and teach all the moves as he calls them. So, bring your partner or come alone and mingle a bit. It's great fun, and the energy in the room is tremendous.

The two square dances will be held in the covered barn area behind/above the Sugar Pine Lodge: the Whitney Pavilion. (See map page P-16.)

Sunday morning service

A non-denominational chapel service, independently hosted by Leroy and Jan McNees will be held at the Pioneer Stage on Sunday at 9:00 am. An inspirational story and bluegrass gospel music will highlight this service which the McNees' and friends have been bringing to Grass Valley for over 20 years.

Late-Night Hot Dog Cart returns to the Grass Valley campground

By Larry Baker

GOT THE MUNCHIES?? You can get your fix! The Hot Dog/Sausage booth will once again be up and running Friday & Saturday nights of the festival. Again the booth will be located in its usual spot in the middle of the campground and manned this year by Dylan Davis of Oroville. Dylan will be open and ready to roll at 10:00 pm serving those great All Beef Hot Dogs, Polish Sausage and for those who can handle em Cajun Hot Links. This should keep the jamming goin'. Soft drinks & water will also be available. The booth will remain open as long as there are those hungry folks who have worked up an appetite from all the great jammin'.

The late-night hot dog booth has become a favorite place to stop by to see friends for great jamming and late night socializing. It has become the late night hangout and place to meet, greet and to showcase your jamming. Late night jammers and even some bands have assembled at the now popular area to showcase their talent. Everyone is encouraged to drop by for a tune or two and who knows it's not uncommon to find one or more of the on-stage bands pickin' and eatin' around the hot dog stand. When you get that late night hunger pain drop by and see Dylan and grab a dog. Entertainment provided by campground jammers! Come for the music stay for the food. UMMM GOOD!

Gibson Brothers appear in 2016



Festival favorites, the Gibson Brothers, will be a headlining act at the 2016 Father's Day Bluegrass Festival.

The CBA never stops moving! Even as preparations ramp up in intensity for the upcoming 40th Anniversary Festival in June of this year, we're already planning for 2016!

Some of the hunting for Father's Day Festival acts occurs at the IBMA World of Bluegrass event, but the reputation of our June Festival, and of the CBA itself, ensures that top acts are often in contact year round, vying for a spot.

Recently signed for the 2016 Father's Day Festival is the Gibson Brothers. This is a band we've seen in Grass Valley before, including 1997 and more recently, in 2004. I first encountered the Gibson Brothers in Tacoma some years ago (I think it was the late 1990's), and they were playing in the bar at Wintergrass! I was a bit newer

to the bluegrass game back then, and I was amazed at their musicianship and tight harmonies and I remember thinking, "Jeez if the bar bands are this good, I'll never have a chance!"

I wondered what part of Kentucky these cats were from and when I chatted with them after their set I was surprised to learn they were from New York! It all goes to show, bluegrass is a state of mind, not just a state in the union.

The Gibson Brothers' sound is pure bluegrass, including plaintive higher-than-high lonesome vocal harmonies. Like a lot of bluegrass acts, the personnel changes over the years, but the core sound of Eric and Leigh Gibson still define their signature sound. The CBA and its membership will glad to see this band again!

The Darrell Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library

By Bruce Long

Do you have an instrument you want to donate to the Kids Instrument Lending Library? Do you know of a child that needs to borrow an instrument?

This year at the Fathers Day Festival there will be several places to drop off instruments. Please remember to make sure that the instrument is PLAYABLE, in good condition, and will stay in tune. The Lending Library is at maximum capacity. Any instrument that is not able to be turned over to a child that day, will not be accepted.

Drop off points:

1. Darby & Bruno Brandli-Camp Spam located in the tent area.
2. The CBA Festival Headquarters trailer located in the RV Camp.
3. The membership/mercantile booth.

To donate an instrument please make sure your name, address, phone number are on a piece of paper inside the instrument case. This is imperative! Please do not take instruments to be donated to the Kids on Bluegrass area. This is a completely different program. Please do not interrupt the KOB rehearsals by dropping off donated instruments. Please take instrument to the other locations.

CBA Founders Forum- Pioneer Stage, Sunday 12:50

Ray Edlund will moderate a forum with some of the founders of the CBA. Jack Sadler, Carl Pagter and Kathy Kirkpatrick are scheduled to take part. Come and learn from these veterans of California Bluegrass and find out if you might like to be part of the next generation of leaders.

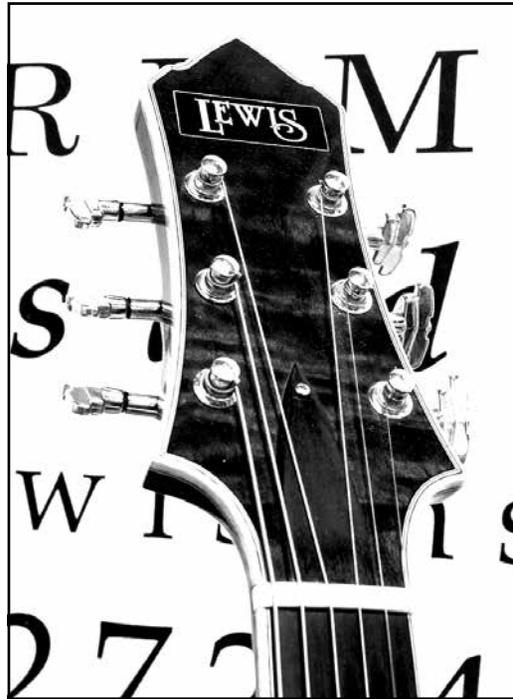
2015 Fathers Day Festival Luthiers Pavilion

By Monte Hendricks

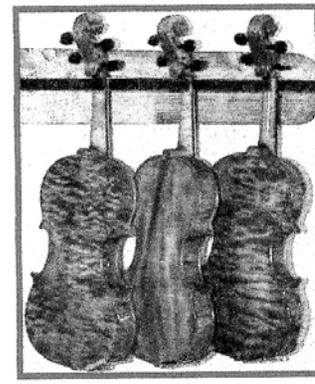
Forty years doesn't seem that long. I remember my brother Allen excitedly telling me that his band was performing at the first CBA festival at Grass Valley. At the time I was living in Wisconsin and head craftsman for a banjo company there. I soon relocated to Northern California and I remember well the first festival we had our "banjo booth" at. The encouragement and warm welcome by the bluegrass community will always be remembered. It's tempting to drift into nostalgia and say the "good old days", but don't. The "good old days" are now! I remember when my friend Michael Lewis showed up and the quality of talented luthiers participating at the festival continued to grow over the years. One of the best improvements in the festival was the addition of the Luthier's Pavilion, a center location for all the instrument builders and it has been a joy for me, for several years now, with this article, to introduce the participants inside the Luthiers Pavilion. As always, we are fortunate that the Luthiers Pavilion continues to draw impressive talent from the world of musical instrument building.

Musical instrument builders are, without a doubt, an interesting sort. What captures and refines our desire to create not only wonderful sounding instruments but also works of art? Please stop in and check out the great instruments but be sure to say hello and visit with us. You'll find that we're all eager to help with information whether you are a seasoned player, professional, or just starting out on your musical journey. And, Happy Fortieth Anniversary!

Here is this year's lineup.



Michael Lewis instrument on display in the Luthier's Pavilion.

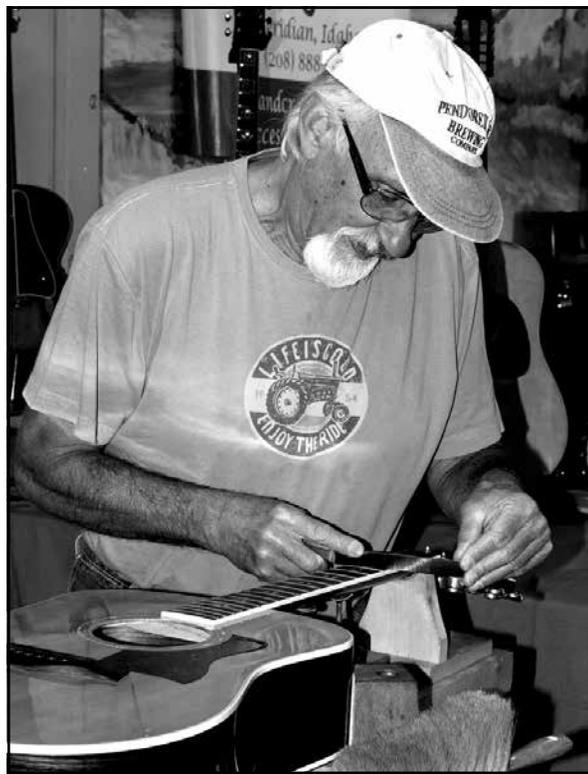


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Frank Daniels Frank's Fiddles Frank's work shows years of experience in handcrafting fine 4-string, 5-string, and even left handed fiddles. Frank & wife Karen travel down from Meridan, Idaho and have been long time participants in the Pavilion. Frank has an impressive list of performers enjoying his instruments.



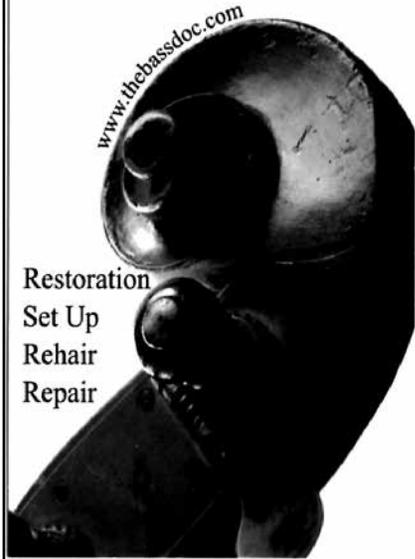
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Joe Dragony Joe is a guitar builder from Carmichael, California. While arch-tops and electrics have been his main focus, he has ventured into building flat-tops. Joe has also added mandolins to his line. He does repairs on guitars, mandolins, and tube amplifiers and will be set up to help you out at his booth.

Matt Bohn Matt is from Felton, California. Matt has a passion for the upright bass that started in the mid 1970's. He comes from a family tradition of woodworking and he easily made the transition from professional bassist to bass luthier. Matt is equipped to help bassists with just about any adjustment, including set-up or repair issues, and bow re-hairs.

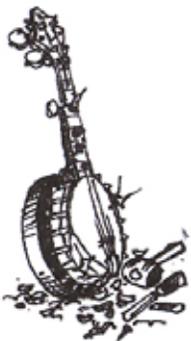
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Austin Clark Austin builds mandolin and mandolin family instruments in Boise, Idaho. Though his primary focus is on mandolins, he also builds archtop guitars and OM style flat-tops. Austin likes to work with a player "creating not just a mandolin, but a fine instrument that reflects both your playing style and your personal style."

Patrick "Doc" Huff Doc started building his heirloom quality openback banjos in 2003. Doc travels down from Dallas, Oregon. Doc is a very fine woodworker and his banjos certainly reflect it.

Monte & Allen Hendricks Hendricks Banjos: Brothers, Monte and Allen build custom banjos and provide repair, restoration, and custom work on banjos out of their shop in Pollock Pines, California. Monte has been a banjo craftsman since 1974. Allen is also known for his banjo picking talents and is a gifted banjo instructor. They believe in design, construction, and artistry based on innovation and engineering but well grounded in traditional ideals.

*Luthiers continued
on page P-26*

California Bluegrass Association's **Golden Old-Time Campout**

AUGUST 27-30 2015

"Thar's GOLD in them thar tunes!"

AT A NEW CAMPSITE:

POKER FLAT

Still at Lake Sonoma - Large Grassy Field - Shade Trees - Amenities!



California Bluegrass Association's **Golden Old-Time Campout**

AUGUST 27-30, 2015

Get Tickets at cbaontheweb.org

NEW SITE - POKER FLAT CAMPGROUND *Next to Park Headquarters*

We are still at Lake Sonoma, but we are moving to a more hospitable site in a huge grassy field with many large shade trees called Poker Flat. It should also be slightly cooler there. Toilets and potable water are available. There are no showers, but the showers at Liberty Glen are still available. There are lots of picnic tables and shade structures scattered about. It's still about a mile to the lake to swim. There are no hookups for recreational vehicles, but there is ample parking including places to park large vehicles near the edge of the field. Cloverdale is about 15 minutes away; Healdsburg is slightly further.

DIRECTIONS

FROM 101 NORTH, take the Dry Creek Road exit and turn left, just north of Healdsburg for 12 miles. It changes name to Skaggs Springs Road as you approach the lake on a sharp curve and later to Rockpile Road. Watch for the sign for Park headquarters, turn left, and look for the campout. The visitor center is across the road, and we will be recruiting volunteers to jam there on Friday and Saturday.

FROM 101 SOUTH, take the Dutcher Creek Road exit, just south of Cloverdale. Turn right when it ends at Dry Creek Road and follow the directions above.

ACTIVITIES Information on workshops will be announced later.

TICKETS

Available on the CBA website at cbaontheweb.org or use this handy QR code 

ADVANCE TICKETS (before August 1): 4-day \$35 * 4-day \$32 (CBA member)
3-day \$25 * 3-day \$22 (CBA member)



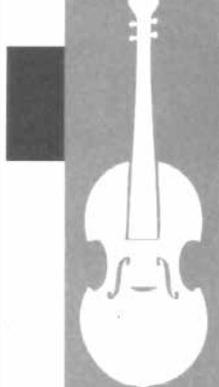
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2015 Fathers Day Festival Luthiers Pavilion



Steve Joynes
The Fiddle Guy
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 Sales and Service
 sjoynes@att.net
 cell: 650 575-1115
 tel: 650 325-5578

Steve Joynes Steve is from Palo Alto, California. Steve's goal is to offer a variety of instruments for tone, appearance, and price that will appeal to almost anyone. Steve says that being a fiddler himself led to a deep interest in repairing and restoring fiddles. Steve tries to have a few new student outfits to help people get started on fiddle playing. Steve is also set up to do on site repairs.



Bill Laird Bill is from Lovelock, Nevada and builds his "Saltgrass" mandolins. Bill is an enthusiastic builder and finds crafting musical instruments a fascinating endeavor. He looks forward to the Luthier's Pavilion every year as it is a place to showcase his work and share experiences and ideas with his fellow luthiers.

Saltgrass:
 Bill Laird
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Ben Wilborn Ben is a custom guitar builder from Reno, Nevada. With a degree from Berklee College of music and a background in fine cabinetmaking, Ben strives to "create instruments that can respond intimately to a player's intention." This is Ben's first year in the Pavilion.



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Randall Kramer "Sparky" builds flat-top guitars in Truckee, California and also does repairs and set ups. He has an impressive list of exceptional guitarists who have played his instruments. Sparky sets this goal as a builder with which to measure his success, "One playing is worth a thousand testimonials." Sparky also does on site repairs in the Pavilion.

Bruce Sexauer Bruce is from Petaluma, California and is a long time presence in the Pavilion. Bruce started building musical instruments when he was 20 years old and, like the rest of us, is always enjoying honing his skills. Bruce is known for his highly evolved acoustic flat top guitars with adventurous designs under his "Sexauer" banner. Bruce will also have a variety of String Bases for sale. At the Luthier's Pavilion Bruce offers his services as a String Bass set-up technician.



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Larry Nair Larry is from Gardnerville, NV and is the Tahoe Guitar Company. He has been building stringed instruments for 14 years including acoustic basses, ukuleles, and dobros. He specializes in "hot rodded" steel string guitars based on traditional designs. He also stays pretty busy with repairs.



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Michael Lewis Michael is from Grass Valley, California. He builds mandolins and guitars and his repair skills are known throughout the region. Michael & and his wife Leitz play a pivotal role in organizing the Luthier's Pavilion. We all owe them a big thank you and a debt of gratitude!



Amy Sullivan
 amy@siminoff.net
 805-365-7111
 PO Box 2992
 Atascadero, CA 93423
 www.siminoff.net

Roger Siminoff Roger is from Arroyo Grande, California. Well known in the music world, he has authored several books and numerous articles on building and setting up instruments. Today Roger devotes his time to the production of mandolin kits, banjo and mandolin parts, as well as his writing.



CONTACT -
Steve Sorensen
 23330 Agramonte Dr.
 Santa Clarita, CA 91321
 Phone - 661-345-6684
 E-mail - steve@sorensenstrings.com

Steve Sorensen Steve works in his one-man shop in Santa Clarita, CA to dish up cool new custom mandolin, guitar and banjo designs which deliver the tone and playability players need to keep picking all day and all night! This is Steve's first year in the Pavilion.

2015 Fathers Day Festival Luthiers Pavilion

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Craig Wilson Craig is from Bakersfield, California and this is his first year in the Pavilion. Craig has owned and played vintage Gibson mandolins, including a Lloyd Loar signed instrument, for over three decades. From this influence he strives to build in the Loar inspired tradition.



Milton David McClaskey

Tel: 415 602 4413

Email: miltondavid@comcast.net

Milton McClaskey Milton builds mandolins and mandolas in his shop in Berkeley, California. After a career that included furniture making, designing and building exhibitions for natural history and science museums and as a planner and project manager in the development of Hands on Science museums worldwide, he has discovered that building musical instruments is about the most interesting and enjoyable thing he has ever done.

The CBA thanks the luthiers who participate in our festival. See them for your emergency repairs to keep you picking throughout the festival.

Visit the Luthiers Pavilion and take a test drive.

Do you have a child who would like to participate in the Kids on Bluegrass Program?

By Sharon L Elliott

The Kids on Bluegrass program is a performance based program for kids between the ages of 4 to 17 who can play a bluegrass instrument and/or sing Bluegrass, Bluegrass Gospel or Oldtime music without parental help. The children must know enough about their instrument that they can play at least several songs, have good timing, and are willing to work hard and learn with other kids. This is an exciting program that started over 25 years ago with some very talented young people who have become very well known over the years most recently Frank Solivan II with his band Dirty Kitchen being nominated for a Grammy Award. His Father, Frank Solivan Sr. has been running the Kids on Bluegrass program for all these years and many really amazingly talented kids have come through this incredible program!

The rehearsals for the Kids on Bluegrass program are as follows:

Thursday: 10:00 AM-Noon -- 1:00 PM- 5:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 AM-Noon -- 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

Friday: 4:55 PM- Kids On Bluegrass Performance-Main Stage

Saturday: 10:00 AM-Noon--1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Saturday: 4:55 PM- Kids on Bluegrass Performance

The KOB rehearsal takes place right on the corner of the road you come into the camp area after you cross the water ditch. We should have our Kids on Bluegrass banners up but most people know where we rehearse and we are very easy to find. Frank usually arrives on Wednesday, so if you are there and want to participate, that is a good time to come and meet with Frank and play him a little tune so he can gauge what the ability level is and you will have a bit more time to get to know each other otherwise just show up at the rehearsal area by 10:00 AM on Thursday morning and please come prepared to have fun. If you are later that please just come on over when you get to the festival. We do NOT teach children to play music but we work with the kids and create many different bands from the 30 to 50 kids we have and make sure that all of our kids get stage time to perform. They will learn how to use the mic, move on and off stage, move around the stage, and other aspects of stage performance. This is an intensive program and our kids form long and enduring relationships and not only do they have a great time but many come back year after year!

Frank and I and the rest of our team are looking forward to once again see our returning Kids on Bluegrass as well as meeting our new Kids on Bluegrass.

Jim Carr Memorial Service - Pioneer Stage

Jim Carr: October 2, 1945 - December 30th, 2014

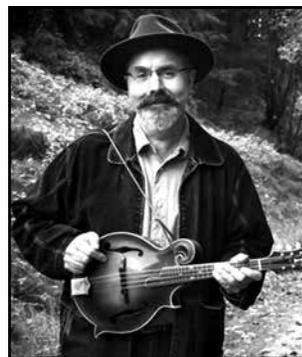
Thursday, June 18th, 2015, the first day of the 2015 Father's Day Festival at Grass Valley, California, there will be an informal Memorial Service for Jim Carr, former CBA Board member, Banjo Player, Musician, CBA Supporter, former Bluegrass DJ and Bluegrass Historian. The service will be taking place at the Pioneer Stage at 1:30 p.m., with a Military Honors Presentation, a short Eulogy, and then we will invite people to share their memories of Jim: his friendship, support for musicians and live music, support for the CBA, and kindness towards those starting out in the music business.

CBA Lifetime Member Appointments

By Rick Cornish

Most years the Association's board of directors selects one or two, and sometimes three, men and women whose contributions to California bluegrass and old-time music deserve special recognition. Board chairman Tim Edes has announced the 2015 Lifetime Member appointments. They are John Reischman, Diana Donnelly and Montie Elston.

John Reischman has been a force on the mandolin since the late 1970s; he's considered a master of the "three T's" of the instrument--tone, taste, and timing. Along with Kathy Kallick,



John Reischman.

John helped found the Good Ol' Persons in the late seventies and the band had a profound influence on defining what we proudly call "California Bluegrass". He went on to play with some of the biggest names in acoustic roots music in the country before establishing his own quintet, John Reischman and the Jaybirds. Although based in Vancouver, BC, John returns frequently to California and has performed and taught for the CBA almost continuously since it was founded in 1975.

It's simply impossible to talk about Diana Donnelly without first stipulating that the woman sings like an angel. An original member of the wildly popular Sidesaddle—lead singer, rhythm guitar—Diana and her cohorts helped demonstrate early on that an all-female band in a male-dominated genre could do just fine, thank you. More recently Diana Donnelly and the Yes Ma'ams

worked throughout northern California delivering a smooth and tasty blend of bluegrass and classic country. Diana's work for the California Bluegrass Association has been just as long-lived as her performing career; she joined the CBA's leadership team in the '80's serving as the Association's Secretary of Record for five years. In the 2000's, Diana agreed to return to that position temporarily but ended up serving another eight years. She has been an MC on our festival stage many times.

Think about pretty much anything of significance that has happened with the California Bluegrass Association over the past fifteen years and you'll find Montie Elston smack in the middle of it. As the Father's Day Bluegrass Festival Director for many years, a board member and now the CBA's Treasurer, Montie has been able to translate the qualities and skill sets learned in the United States Army: a systematic attention to detail, an unwavering focus on the big picture and a calmness, really, almost a serenity, under fire. His leadership and willingness to take on jobs "not in his job description" have helped the CBA get through some scrapes and launch many new undertakings since the turn of the century.



Diana Donnelly.



Montie Elston.

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