

## NOVEMBER TRIVIA QUIZ "Who's Porch is This?"



This month, Trivia Master Bert Daniel poses a graphic riddle from a recent pilgrimage: "Who's porch is this?" Send your answer to [trivia@californiabluegrass.net](mailto:trivia@californiabluegrass.net). The winner of our November contest receives a wonderful Paige banjo or guitar capo. Only CBA members are eligible to win; in case of multiple correct entries, a winner will be chosen at random. Good luck!

Last month's winner of the question "What Bluegrass Boy used a synonym?" (and the winner of a new Shubb Capo) will be announced next month. Thanks for your patience while we catch up with our new publication schedule!

**BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN**  
**CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION**  
3739 BALBOA STREET, #5090  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94121-2605

CHANGE SERVICE  
REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
US PSTG PAID  
PERMIT NO 1831  
WEST SAC, CA

## THE BIGGEST JOB

by Pete Ludé, CBA Chair

During a 1966 radio interview, Bill Monroe explained that "the biggest job of Bluegrass is to keep out what don't belong in it." That certainly does sound like a tough task! At the recent IBMA World of Bluegrass conference in Raleigh, I heard a wonderfully broad range of Bluegrass music by dozens of talented and innovative bands. No doubt, Mr. Monroe would be working tirelessly to share his opinion on exactly what is Bluegrass and what isn't. So, it might be best to avoid this topic altogether, and ask a different question: what is the second biggest job in Bluegrass? My hunch is that it is producing a monthly newsletter for the Bluegrass community.

With this edition of the Bluegrass Breakdown, we are finally letting Patrick Campbell take some time off to work on new fiddle tunes, and our new team is taking over. Please welcome Jason Dilg as managing editor, and Gina Dilg handling the graphics and production for future editions of the Bluegrass

Breakdown. We are thrilled to have them as part of CBA. In this edition, our special feature article is celebrating Mr. Campbell's tenure as newsletter editor. Our organization is fortunate to have volunteers of this dedication and skill.

As we head towards winter, the CBA volunteer team continues to find ways for us to gather regularly in local jams and regional concerts. Our key focus now is on two major indoor jamming events: the South State 48 in Carlsbad, starting Nov. 3, followed by the Great 48 in Bakersfield, kicking off the new year on Jan. 5. Our organizing committees are very excited to be expanding both events with performances: we will be hosting the legendary Herb Pedersen for an informal show at the South State 48 on November 5. During the upcoming Great 48 in January, CBA is especially proud to be bringing The Jerry Douglas Band to Bakersfield for an exclusive performance at Buck Owens' Crystal Palace. Don't miss it!

Plans for the 2023 Father's Day Bluegrass Festival are now being finalized, with tickets going on sale later this

month. Our team has secured a stellar lineup of bands for this year's festival in Grass Valley. Watch for updates at [FathersDayFestival.com](http://FathersDayFestival.com). We will also be hosting our annual Summer Music Camp the week before the festival, with registration opening in February.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at one of these many events coming up. In the meantime, drop me a line with your thoughts, questions, or to volunteer at our many activities.

[Chair@CaliforniaBluegrass.net](mailto:Chair@CaliforniaBluegrass.net)  
(844) BLU-GRASS

- Pete Ludé



Pete Ludé. Photo by Patrick Campbell.



# BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Preserving and growing Bluegrass, Old-time, gospel, and traditional music in California since 1974.



Nov  
2022

## CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS REUNION TOURS NORCAL

*Supergroup Returns Home After National Success*

by The Bluegrass Breakdown

Every year since 2012, banjo master Bill Evans has brought together a stellar collection of banjo players from all over the world, joined with an all-star California-based band, and presented his California Banjo Extravaganza. Last year, Bill changed the format with a special gathering of well-loved Bluegrass musicians with strong California connections. California Bluegrass Reunion features Bill's longtime collaborators John Reischman on mandolin; Jim Nunally on guitar; Sharon Gilchrist on bass and mandolin; and Chad Manning and Darol Anger on fiddle. The musicians of the California Bluegrass Reunion have made music together in different combinations for decades,



and this band features many of their new and original compositions.

We had a chance to catch their show for the 2022 IBMA Industry Awards Luncheon in October, and we're glad we did. The California Bluegrass Reunion presented a refreshing blend of new material from Reischman, Nunally, and Evans and traditional pieces that showed both the members' individual mastery as well as their sensitivity to the ensemble.

### Northern California Tour Dates

#### Thursday, Nov. 10

The Side Door, Sacramento  
7:00pm [sidedoor.net](https://www.sidedoor.net)

#### Friday, Nov. 11

Concert in the Barn, Willits  
Contact: Bruce  
[willitsredwood@gmail.com](mailto:willitsredwood@gmail.com)

#### Saturday, Nov. 12

Sonoma County Folk & Bluegrass Festival, Sebastopol  
Afternoon Band Workshop and Evening Concert  
[seb.org](https://www.seb.org)

#### Sunday, Nov. 13

Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, Berkeley  
2:00pm Banjo, Guitar & Mandolin Workshops  
7:00pm Concert  
[thefreight.org](https://thefreight.org)

#### Tuesday, Nov. 15

The Otter Opry, Monterey  
United Methodist Church  
7:00pm [otteropry.org](https://www.otteropry.org)

## UPDATE FROM THE SOUTHLAND

*Herb Pedersen at SouthState 48!*

by Donna Hargis

We are thrilled to announce "Songs and Stories with Herb Pedersen" at the upcoming South State 48 Vol II Jamming Festival from Nov. 3-6 in Carlsbad.

Herb Pedersen will play songs, share stories from his rich bluegrass history, and hold a Q&A session. This musical odyssey will take place from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 5 at the Carlsbad-by-the-Sea hotel, and is a separate ticket.

With his lifelong pal, Chris Hillman, Herb continues developing the music they both grew up playing and singing. Herb began his career in Berkeley in the early 60s, playing five-string banjo and acoustic guitar with people like David Grisman, Butch Waller, David Nelson, and Jerry Garcia. In addition to his endless list of musical mentions, his own groups, like The Desert Rose Band and The Laurel Canyon

Ramblers show why Herb is so respected in the industry.

This is the second year for this fabulous jamming and concert event. The indoor and outdoor jam space, workshops, and excellent bands.

We've added some new features this year, including an "Open Jam" tent hosted by a variety of individuals, bands, and organizations; located between the hotel's two courtyards. All free, and all pickers are welcome!

Also, we are so excited to have Project Barely as our first official sponsor of SS48! Brent Reger of Project Barely is a good friend to Bluegrass, hosting jams at their Lomita location and hiring Bluegrass bands at their Manhattan Beach and in Lomita locations. Chief brewer Rives Borland is a Bluegrass fanatic and will be on hand pouring the beer in the courtyard Friday and Saturday. Be sure to stop by and show them some Bluegrass love, as they've been so good to us.

Hotel rooms are likely to sell out, but there are many other lodging options nearby, or come just for the day. We'd love to see you there for this great CBA event!

South State 48  
Bluegrass by the Sea

The California Bluegrass Association presents the inaugural  
**South State 48**  
Bluegrass by the Sea

At the Carlsbad-by-the-Sea Hotel in beautiful Carlsbad, CA  
Friday November 5 - Sunday November 7, 2021  
Book your room now by calling 1-800-266-7880  
or by visiting [www.SouthState48.com](http://www.SouthState48.com)

24/7 Courtyard Jamming Rooms or Quiet Hours Poolside Rooms are available.  
Book now as this is a limited event. Only 71 Rooms will be sold at the CBA discounted rates. This event is expected to sell out quickly!

CARLSBAD BY THE SEA HOTEL  
WINDMILL FOOD HALL  
CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION



# CELEBRATING THE CBA SPIRIT: PATRICK CAMPBELL

*With this issue of Bluegrass Breakdown, Patrick Campbell has retired from his role as editor. Although he continues to help in other capacities, we dedicate this month's feature story to celebrate Patrick and his past few years of extraordinary contribution to the CBA.*

*By Phoebe Leigh-Suelflow*

Patrick Campbell, like the wine he produced, is complex. Never content with complacency, he's always ready for a challenge. Now, one stage of his life is coming to a close: he has stepped down after four years from the CBA Board of Directors, and he has handed off editorship of the Bluegrass Breakdown. We'll miss his steady day-to-day hand at the helm, and we're looking forward to seeing him at CBA events, like the South State 48 and the Great 48.

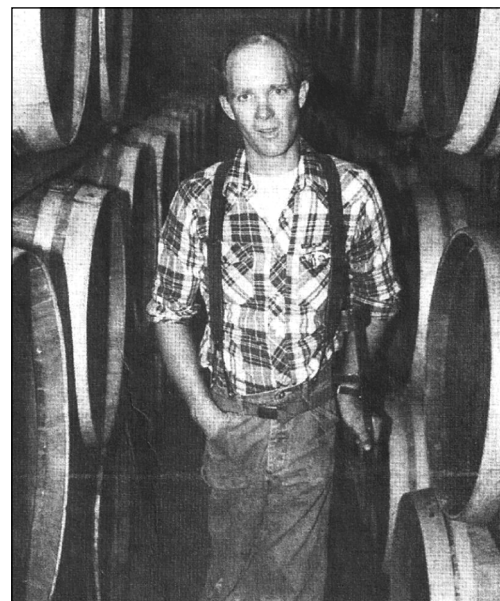
Patrick's curiosity and love of learning has taken him to some unusual places



*Patrick Campbell.*

beyond the Bluegrass and Old-time he loves. Although born in Baltimore, he grew up in Southern California. After his graduate work in philosophy at Harvard, Patrick returned to California to live at a Zen Buddhist commune in Sonoma. This was a turning point in Patrick's life, though not necessarily for spiritual reasons. He claims that he was never good at meditation, but the commune had a small, 100-year-old vineyard. Drawn to the gnarly old Palomino grape vines that grew there, he started learning to prune them.

Later he enrolled in the grueling professional vineyard manager class at Santa Rosa Junior College. When a small cabernet sauvignon vineyard came up for sale just down the road, he bought it. Over time, this project became 40 acres and a winery, and then onto making wines in Lodi and South America. The challenges of winemaking and distribution became Patrick's work for 45 years. He co-founded a trade group, Family Winemakers of California, which soon joined forces with a national trade group with wineries in all the 50 states. This new group challenged the way



*Patrick at Laurel Glen Winery, 1985.  
Photo by James Laube.*

wines are distributed in America. Since Prohibition, wineries had been prohibited from shipping directly to consumers or retailers in another state. Family Winemakers felt this was untenable, and helped devise and execute a multiyear, David-and-Goliath case that landed in the Supreme Court as *Granholm v. Heald*. They won the case. Wine drinkers now

*contd. on next page →*

## CBA BRINGS THE JERRY DOUGLAS BAND TO BAKERSFIELD

**Exclusive Performance at Buck Owens' Crystal Palace: Jan. 6, 2023**  
**by Pete Ludé**

The California Bluegrass Association is mighty proud to partner with Guitar Masters to bring The Jerry Douglas Band to California for an exclusive performance in Bakersfield as part of the CBA Great 48 Jam. The Concert will be held Friday, Jan. 6 at Buck Owens' Crystal Palace: the legendary music venue just a few miles from the Bakersfield Marriott Hotel, and home of the Great 48. This is a dinner theater, with the doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at [BuckOwens.com/tickets](https://BuckOwens.com/tickets).

Jerry Douglas is a Bluegrass legend and 14-time Grammy winner. Called "Dobro's matchless contemporary master" by The New York Times, he regularly performs with The Earls of Leicester, Alison Krauss & Union Station, and many other bands. His distinctive sound is featured on more than 1,500 albums with artists ranging from Earl Scruggs to Ray Charles.

This concert features The Jerry Douglas Band, which was recently featured on-stage at the IBMA World of Bluegrass show in Raleigh. You won't want to miss this rare appearance of a Bluegrass music legend, and one of the most famous music venues on the West coast!





know who to thank for the variety of wines they can find on store shelves around the country today!

Not just active in the wine industry, Patrick is also active in community affairs. There's a lot of opportunity, he jokes, because Bloomfield, where he lives, has 300 residents and 30,000 cows. He's served on several local boards including the board of KRCB, a Bay Area public broadcasting station.

One other current has run through Patrick's life: music. He started playing guitar at age 10. In high school, he joined a "really bad" Bluegrass band and spent every afternoon hanging out at Claremont's iconic Folk Music Center. One day, at age 18, he discovered a "genuine Stradivarius" violin (it said so right on the label) in his grandmother's attic; he took this as a sign that he should take up the instrument. He later switched to the viola, playing in the Santa Rosa Symphony and other North Bay orchestras for a number of years.

Patrick didn't play music during the 20 busy years of building his wine business and helping raise three daughters. But following a 10-year stint of paddling and a number of close calls in rough water, he finally traded his paddle for a fiddle bow.

Patrick has always loved Bluegrass music. Six or seven years ago, as he was winding down the winery business, he heard about a Bluegrass jam in Sebastopol, near where he lives. He picked up the fiddle again and eventually put together the Bloomfield Bluegrass Band. They played at the 2018 Father's Day Festival on Vern's Stage, and today can be found performing regularly around the North Bay. He admits, "I love the communal part of playing with other people."

Patrick joined the CBA Board of Directors to help update CBA commu-

nications, particularly the Bluegrass Breakdown and CBA website. The loss of membership dues as a result of the COVID pandemic made cost-cutting inevitable, and one of the most obvious expenses was the 30-plus-page Breakdown. Patrick took over the newsletter

his band has suddenly become very active. Managing a band and hustling gigs takes a lot of time, he says, and now they are playing at least two gigs a week "and making some money at it!"

Looking back, Patrick says he is glad



Patrick and fellow board member and photographer Robin Frenette at CBA's Father's Day Festival.

ter in May 2020; he had never been an editor or publisher. Fortunately, he is a fast learner. CBA graphic designer Jesse Poteralski helped him set up the basic format and Patrick quickly figured out layout and publishing software.

In addition to putting out the Breakdown, Patrick has also been a CBA photographer, helping the photo team chronicle CBA events. He worked with fellow board member Robin Frenette to develop the new website and to create a photo archive allowing the CBA to organize thousands of photos—an invaluable resource!

Patrick will not be sitting back and taking it easy. He says that he will keep an eye on the board "in absentia" and will continue pursuing his other interests: fiddling, biking, and swimming. Now that COVID restrictions are lifted,

he sold the winery: it allowed him to spend more time with music. He sees music is good for the world—especially Bluegrass and Old-time music. "It's an activity that can make the world a better place by bringing people together, teaching kids; older folks can interact with younger people. That is the mission of the CBA." He notes that two of the original members in his Bloomfield Bluegrass Band were younger than his kids. He laughs, "When I was their age, I wouldn't give my Dad's friends the time of day! You didn't do that back then, but today all ages interact."

Patrick has made a difference to many of us, and we know he will continue to do so in the future. Which direction will it take?



Questions or comments?  
[editor@californiabluegrass.net](mailto:editor@californiabluegrass.net)