

BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Vol. 24 No. 7

November, 1998

Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby & Friends On Tour

What do some of the world's best bluegrass musicians do when they have a few weeks off from their bands' busy touring schedule? They go back on the road, of course! In perhaps the most eagerly anticipated busman's holiday tour of the year, Dry Branch Fire Squad stalwart Suzanne Thomas teams up with Lonesome River Band member Don Rigsby for a series of special concerts this fall.

Beginning with an inaugural concert at IBMA's Fan Fest in Louisville, Kentucky on Sunday, October 25th, Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby & Friends will tour the West Coast in November as well as appearing at a few select festivals in 1999. Rounding out this all-star band are Missy Raines and Jim Hurst from Claire Lynch and the Front Porch String Band and bluegrass music's favorite ethnomusicologist, Bill Evans.

Featuring two of the most passionate singers in bluegrass music today, this unique combination will spotlight the talents of each musician with a particular focus on selections from Suzanne's Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts (Rounder) and Don's A Vision (Sugar Hill). Also to be expected are lots of instrumental fireworks from guitarist Jim Hurst, banjo player Bill Evans and bassist Missy Raines, performing songs from Jim's

Open Window and Bill's Native and Fine (Rounder).

Suzanne Thomas has been an important part of the bluegrass and old time music scene since 1970, touring with the legendary Hotmud Family and in the 1990's with Dry Branch Fire Squad. With the sum-

mer release of Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts, a recording that teams Suzanne with not only her bandmates in Dry Branch Fire Squad, but also with Don's Lonesome River Band, Jim Hurst & Missy Raines, the Seldom Scene, IIIrd Tyme Out, John Hartford and





Laurie Lewis, she is receiving some long deserved public acclaim. Writes Wayne Bledsoe of Bluegrass Now magazine, "Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts is destined to be a strong contender in 1998 for several of the 'Best Of...' categories...Suzanne Thomas is a singer's singer." In the magazine No Depression, Ray Kasten writes, "Suzanne Thomas is an unaffected wonder, maybe the best unknown voice in country music."

At only 30 years of age, Don Rigsby has emerged as one of modern bluegrass music's guiding lights. A veteran of Vern Gosdin's band as well as the Bluegrass Cardinals and J.D. Crowe and the New South, Don is best known to audiences through his work with the Lonesome River Band as well as his participation on such all-star recording projects as Longview, The Stanley Tradition and A Picture of Hank. With the release of A Vision, a gospel bluegrass project featuring Ricky Skaggs, Ralph Stanley, the Issacs and many others, Don's powerful, singular musical voice emerges. Writes Ron Thomason, "Don Rigsby is the best new singer

(Continued on Page 4)

Early Bird Tickets now on sale for CBA's 24th Annual Bluegrass Festival

by Suzanne Denison

Whether you are making early plans for your vacation next summer, or looking for a great gift for your favorite Bluegrass fan, the California Bluegrass Association has the perfect thing for you. Early Bird Discount Tickets are now on sale (through February 28, 1999) for the 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival.

Dates for the event are Thursday, June 17 through Sunday, June 20, 1999 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California. Four full days of great music on stage, jamming, workshops, children's programs, camping in the tall pine trees, and much more.

The Band Selection Committee will be meeting this month to select bands that have submitted promotion and application packets, and we'll announce their selections next month. Already slated to appear are Mac Wiseman, The Osborne Brothers, Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys, IIIrd Tyme Out, The Sand Mountain Boys, and the U.S. Navy Bluegrass Band, Country Current. We will be adding ten more bands and a clogging group to this great lineup.

Plans are well underway to make this a special festival for everyone who attends. All of the area Festival Coordinators have been working since July to get their crews lined-up and planning started for CBA's annual festival — we hope you will join us on the festival team as a volunteer, and/or bring your family and friends for a good time and wonderful music.

As usual, early camping will be available on the fairgrounds from Monday, June 14th through Wednesday, June 16th. Camping fees for these days is \$15 per RV per night and \$10 per tent per night. Three and four day festival tickets include camping fees during the festival. Campers with handicapping conditions should call the Festival Coordinator to make advance

reservations prior to the festival.

Early Bird Discount ticket and CBA member senior citizen (65 and over) are available to CBA mem-

bers only. You may order as many member discount tickets as there are people on your membership— (Continued on Page 4)

Bluegrass Breakdown

California Bluegrass Association P.O. Box 690369 Stockton, CA 95269-0369 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Stockton, CA 952 Permit No. 569

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	e-mail CBAWPN@volcano.net
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	(707) 252 0492
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5082 Warnke Rd., Paradise, CA 95969	(520) 977 1764
JOOZ WAITIKE RU., FAIAUISE, CA 93909	(530) 8//-1/04





California Bluegrass Association Bluegrass Breakdown

is published monthly as a magazine at P.O. Box 690369, Stockton, CA 95269, by the California Bluegrass Association. The CBA is a non-profit organization founded in 1975 and is dedicated to the furtherance of Bluegrass, Old-Time, and Gospel music. Membership in the CBA costs \$15.00 a year and includes a subscription to the *Bluegrass Breakdown*. A spouse's membership may be added for an additional \$2.50 and children between 12 and 18 for \$1.00 per child. Children 12-18 who wish to vote will have to join for \$10.00. Names and ages are required.

Band memberships are available for \$25.00 for the band. Subscription to the *Bluegrass Breakdown* without membership is available only to foreign locations. Third class postage is paid at Stockton, California. *Bluegrass Breakdown* (USPS 315-350). Postmaster please send address changes to: *Bluegrass Breakdown*, P.O. Box 690369, Stockton, CA 95269.

Copy and advertising deadline for the 1st of the month one month prior to publication (i.e. February deadline is January 1, etc). Members are encouraged to attend all board meetings. The November meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, November 8, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Yvonne and Paul Gray, 5822 Larcom Lane, Stockton, CA 95210 For directions, call any Board member of the CBA office at (209) 293-1559.

Please send all contributions and advertisements to: Editor - Bluegrass Breakdown P.O. Box 9

Wilseyville, CA 95257 or FAX to 209-293-1220 or e-mail cbawpn@volcano.net

Visit our Web Site at: www.mandolyn.com/cba3.html

Editor	Suzanne Denison
Columnist and Feature Writer	Elena Corey
Columnist	
Columnist	Howard Polley
	J.D. Rhynes
Columnist	
Columnist	Bill Wilhelm
Feature Writer	Barry Willis
Feature Writer	Suzanne Sullivan
	Denison Desktop Publishing
Photographers	
Recording Reviews	Michael Hall and Ken Reynolds

Writers, artists, musicians and photographers are encouraged to submit their original materal for publication in the *Bluegrass Breakdown*. please send to the Editor at the address above. E-mail submissions are appreciated. Files can be read in text or Microsoft Word formats.

California Bluegra	ass Association Membership Application	Type of membership: Single - 1 vote
NameAddress	Spouse Child(ren)	Couple - 2 votes Single or Couple With non-voting children Single or Couple with voting children Children's names and Birthdates:
City	State Zip	If Senior Citizens, please list birthdates:
Phone	Single Membership	Membership Total \$ New [] Renewal [] Member # Volunteer Area

Editor's Corner

by Suzanne Denison

With this issue of the *Bluegrass Breakdown*, I begin my 11th year as your Editor. The first newsletter I produced was a slim six page (8 1/2"x 11") publication, with not much news. I took over as a volunteer and a fairly new member of the California Bluegrass Association.

When I became editor of the Breakdown, it was a bi-monthly publication with one or two page monthly update flyers mailed to about 600 members. This issue is 32 pages (11" X 13") of Tabloid newspaper with feature stories, columns, musical notation, recording and book reviews, and listings for places, jams, upcoming events, radio programs, and Internet addressess. It is mailed to more than 2550 CBA members, as well as Bluegrass and Old-time Music Associations, musicians, music stores, record companies and booking agents throughout the United

Much of the credit for the quality of our publication is due to dedicated and talented volunteers who contribute their time and talents each month. Elena Corey, M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper, Howard Polley, Ken Reynolds, J.D. Rhynes, Joe Weed, and Bill Wilhelm are monthly regulars. Other writers who make regular contributions are Larry Carlin, Stan Dye, Howard Gold, Michael Hall, George Martin, LeRoy McNees, Joe Ross and Suzanne Sullivan.

Numerous other writers, cartoonists, musicians, luthiers, and photographers have also had their submissions printed in our publication over the years, and through all of their efforts, we have one of the finest periodicals produced by any non-profit music association in the United States.

The Bluegrass Breakdown has been nominated for Print Media awards from both the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) and the Society For Blue Grass Music of America (SPBGMA), and although we have never won an award, I feel proud and honored to be nominated.

There are too many people to mention who have helped make my job as Editor both satisfying and enjoyable over the past 10 years. One person who truly helped me when I first started was Judy Dowell of the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Judy was then the Editor of Bluegrass By The Bay, and she was generous and gracious in sharing information and news sources with me.

From the beginning of my tenure in November of 1988 to the present, a great deal of changes have been made which make my job easier. I started as Editor with several boxes full of old newsletters and no computer records of previous issues. I produced the entire Breakdown after work and on weekends, gathering information from other association newsletters, phone calls, scribbled notes, and a few faithful contributors who sent in typed columns. It was difficult to produce a professional product under these conditions.

In 1998, however, most of the columns which appear in this publication come to me via e-mail or on computer disc. Bgrass-Land Assoc-L, both on-line discussion groups, keep me informed on what is happening in the Bluegrass Music Industry on a daily basis. In 1992 when I started my own desktop publishing business, the CBA Board of Directors hired me as a part-time contractor to edit the *Breakdown* and act as the Association's Direc-

tor of Operations.

Many CBA members don't realize what my job entails, and perhaps aren't interested, but I want you to know, since your membership dues and the profits from the CBA's annual Festival in Grass Valley pay for 100 hours a month of my services.

My main job is as Editor of the Bluegrass Breakdown. This entails the gathering of news articles, feature stories, reviews, photographs etc. each month, and reviewing and editing them for publication. Most months I have so much mail that it takes several hours to read, sort and edit submissions for publication. I typesetarticles and print out e-mail and disc articles for proofing by two members of the Board of Directors. This part of my job entails about 48-50 hours each month.

Most of the paste-up (production of the newspaper to be camera ready for the printer) is now done on my computer. I have a program which allows me to make up several full pages of the *Breakdown* on my computer screen and print them out on two 8.5" x 11" pieces of paper. After all of the pages are printed, they are pasted-up onto newspaper grid sheets, the advertisements and photographs are added, and the paper is ready to go to the printer. This part of the job usually takes at least 8 hours.

Iwork with advertisers to make sure that the products they are selling fit the purpose and scope of the California Bluegrass Association. As a non-profit music association, we are limited to advertisements which fit our stated purpose by U.S. Postal regulations. I also design and produce all CBA advertisements for concerts, campouts, and the annual Festival, as well as any graphic



arts design or typesetting required by paid advertisers. Advertising run sheets, ad payments and billing information are then submitted to our Treasurer each month. The time for this task varies by month, depending on the volume of advertising and/or interest in future advertising.

In addition, I work with both our Membership Vice President Mary Runge, and Kathy Kirkpatrick (who does the membership data entry on her computer) to obtain a monthly membership list via e-mail. The file then has to be checked for zip code accuracy, sorted and counted by zip code to meet postal regulations for bulk mailing. Then the mailing labels are printed. This job takes about 10-12 hours per month.

As Director of Operations for the CBA, I maintain an office for the Association. This task consists mostly of answering phone, e-mail, fax and mail inquiries for information, reprints or back copies of the Bluegrass Breakdown, and other member services. In addition, I am one of the contact for information about the CBA's annual June Festival; assist the band selection committee chairman in gathering band submissions and correspondence with bands; produce welcome brochures for the Festival; design and print flyers and programs for the Festival and other CBA events; and produce other graphic arts and publicity release tasks as needed throughout the year. These tasks involve the balance of the 100 hours and then some.

Over the past several years at various times, I have also served as the Secretary for the Board of Directors, the Publicity Coordinator, and as the Children's Program Coordinator for the Grass Valley Festival. These jobs were done as a volunteer, and not part of my contracted time.

I would like to thank the members of the CBA Board of Directors and the membership for the past ten years as Editor of the Bluegrass Breakdown. I hope that you will continue to be satisfied with the publication I am producing and the job I am performing for you. I can't promise another 10 years, but I will

continue as long as my health permits.

My promise to you is that I will continue to do the best job I am capable of doing, and my goal is to continue to promote Bluegrass, Old-time and Gospel Music through our voice, the *Bluegrass Breakdown*. Anyone who has a band, a recording, a book, a music-related product, or an event they want publicized; a story, column or photograph related to this musical genre they want printed, or a letter they want published, please send it to me — I'll print everything I can based upon the space available that issue.

As I wrote in the November 1988 issue — I need your help! Thanks for the past 10 years, and enjoy the music!

P.S. Thanks to all of you who called or sent cards to wish Don a speedy recovery. He is doing fine and is now back to teaching his 6th grade class in Stockton.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

GUITARFOR SALE—TAYLOR 810, 1995. Excellent condition, no dings or scratches. All paperwork. \$1525.00. 1-916-344-8589.

CBALOGO MERCHANDISE makes great holiday gifts for your family and friends. Bumper Stickers, Buttons, Calendars, Cookbooks, Coffee Mugs, Caps, Sports Bottles, Sweatshirts, T-Shirts, Jackets, Visors and much more available now at reasonable prices. See the order blank on the back page of this issue for easy shopping by mail.

LESSONS

BANJO LESSONS IN BAY AREA from Bill Evans. Rounder recording artist, *Banjo Newsletter* columnist and former member of Dry Branch Fire Squad. Beginners to advanced; Scruggs, melodic and single-string styles, back-up. Lessons individually tailored to suite each student's needs. Over 20 years teaching experience. El Cerrito, (510) 234-4508.

Bluegrass Breakdown Advertising Rates

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

Flyer insertion is available at a cost of \$150 per issue.

Other sizes of advertising are available at \$1.16 per column inch based on a 5 column tabloid size. Please call (209) 293-1559 or FAX (209) 293-1220 for further information.

A 10% discount is offered for advertising which runs 6 issues or more and is paid for in advance.

Art work should be very clear black and white layout. Photographs which have been screened (75 dpi line screen) are preferred, however our printer can screen them for an additional \$7 per shot.

Advertising proofs can be FAXed upon request if typesetting and/or layout is required. Please allow at least 5 extra days for production.

Other advertising sizes and color advertising available. Call or FAX for price quotation or further information, (209) 293-1559 phone or FAX (209) 293-1220.

Classified Advertising

The current rates for classified ads are based on 3 1/2 inches of typed copy and are as follows: \$3.00 for the first three lines and 50¢ for each additional line........

All advertising must be paid for in advance unless prior arrangements have been made for billing.

Make checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association and send check and ad to:
Suzanne Denison, Editor Bluegrass Breakdown
P.O. Box 9 - Wilseyville, CA 95257
Phone (209) 293-1559 - FAX (209) 293-1220

Suzanne Thomas/Don Rigsby & Friends on Tour

(Continued from Page 1) in bluegrass music...This music will raise your blood pressure, give you chills and hold your hand to the fire." Writing in Bluegrass Unlimited, Frank Godbey proclaims, "Don has come into his own as a real force in bluegrass music. He consoles us and uplifts us with his singing."

Jim Hurst and Missy Raines are veterans of bluegrass and country music in their own right with credentials ranging from Trisha Yearwood and Holly Dunn to Eddie and Martha Adcock, the Brother Boys and the Masters. For the last several years, they have been an integral part of Claire Lynch and the Front Porch String Band, appearing on her Silver and Gold release (Rounder). In addition to continuing to perform with Claire, they also are attracting much attention on their own as a duo. Missy recently picked up her sixth IBMA finalist nomination for "Bass Player of the Year." Her first solo recording, "My Place in the Sun," will be released in October. Jim is a mind boggling guitarist, equally adept at flatpicking and fingerpicking styles (sometimes in the same tune!), who has also recently appeared with the Sam Bush Band and with John Cowan and Scott Vestal. His first solo recording, "Open Window," has received rave reviews and national airplay.

Rounding out Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby & Friends is Rounder recording artist Bill Evans.

Early Bird Tickets now on

(Continued from Page 1

i.e. single membership = 1 ticket; couple = 2; paid children = 1 per child (over 12). Members may order tickets for non-members at the non-member price only.

The savings in ticket prices you receive is substantial. For example, Early Bird price for a 4-day Adult Festival ticket is \$55 or \$50 for seniors. The gate price for the same ticket is \$80. Similar savings apply to other ticket categories. It might also be a good idea to let your nonmember friends know about member discounts and ask them to join us!

For further information and a ticket order form, please see the full-page advertisement in this issue. Remember — order your tickets early, the deadline is February 28, 1999.

If you have any questions regarding tickets, please call David Runge at (707) 762-8735. Or, if you would like to have a sample copy of the *Bluegrass Breakdown* sent to your non-member friends, please call the CBA office at (209) 293-1559.



Missy Raines and Jim Hurst

Bill's 1995 release Native and Fine, featuring Missy Raines, Suzanne Thomas, StuartDuncan, David Grier and Mike Compton, received an Honorable Mention for "Acoustic Instrumental Recording of the Year" from the Association for Independent Music. A member of Dry Branch Fire Squad from 1993 to 1997, Bill is finishing work on his doctoral degree in ethnomusicology from the University of California,

Berkeley. In addition, in the last year he has presented his solo concert "The Banjo In America," featuring over 200 years of banjo music, in such venues as the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH; Clarion Music Center, San Francisco, CA; the Border Folk Festival, El Paso, TX; and Wintergrass, Tacoma, WA.



Bill Evans

Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby & Friends On Tour: 1998

• Nov. 18 — Portland, OR: Duffy's, 8 pm, John Malloy (503-289-7798)

• Nov. 19 — Seattle, WA, Tractor Tavern, 8pm, Susan Madden (206-463-1551)

 Nov. 20 — Palo Alto, CA, Redwood Bluegrass Associates, Unitarian Church, 8 pm; (650-691-9982)

 Nov. 21 — Citrus Heights, CA, California Bluegrass Association concert, Mesa Verde Performing Arts Center, 8 pm (209-293-1559)

• Nov. 22 — Pacific Grove, CA, The Media Room, 6 pm, Nina Kelly (408-372-5641)

 Nov. 24 — Berkeley, CA, Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 pm (510-548-1761)

Two new rules to apply at CBA's 1999 Father's Day Festival

At the 1998 CBA Festival retrospective and the October 1998 Board meeting, the members of the Board of Directors of the California Bluegrass Association voted to add a new rule and amend another respectively. These rules will be in effect during the 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival beginning in June 1999. The rules and the reasons for the changes are as follows:

1. NO GOLF CARTS OR ATVS —
The only allowable golf carts on the fairgrounds will be OFFICIAL FESTIVAL VEHICLES. All other golf carts and ATVs are prohibited on the festival grounds from Monday prior to the festival until Monday following the festival except for single person battery operated vehicles used by the handicapped or people with medical problems.

The Board reluctantly enacted this new rule due to insurance liability and problems experienced with privately owned golf carts and ATVs at previous festivals; namely individuals who used excessive speed in the audience and camping areas; carried an overload of passengers or equipment on these vehicles; and/or operated them in a manner which might cause injury to the driver or other festival attendees.

Persons with a handicap or those with medical problems which make it difficult for them to walk to music performances, workshops or other activities on the festival grounds may still use single person battery operated vehicles such as the "Lark," or "Rascal" or other such vehicles for their personal use.

2. CAMPING ON THE FESTIVAL SITE - Camping is available on the Festival site with the purchase of a 3 or 4 day Festival Ticket. Camping is in the rough on a first-come, first-served basis with a limited number of electrical and water hookups. The only reserved campsites are for those with handicapping conditions who make advance reservations for special accommodations. A California (or other state) Handicapped Placard must be clearly displayed on eligible vehicles or camp sites in the handicapped

camping area.

The California Bluegrass Association has traditionally set aside an area for tent campers only, which has been defined as: "from the paved road at Gate 4 off of McCourtney Road, to the Fairgrounds maintenance building and from the water ditch to the chain link fence on McCourtney road — except for the area immediately adjacent the fence in both directions".

In the past several years the Nevada County Fairgrounds (17th Agricultural District) has been installing water and electrical outlets throughout the grounds to generate income on a year-round basis from fees paid by individual and group campers. These improvements have greatly enhanced the area traditionally defined as "tent only", and created an area which is very attractive to those with recreational vehicles. Enforcing the tents only policy has become more and more difficult each year.

The Festival Coordinator, the area coordinators, and the CBA Board of Directors have decided that there should be open camping

throughout the fairgrounds at all future festivals. In order to maintain a "tents only" camping area, a new coordinator and volunteer staff would have to be instituted, and no such volunteers have come forward at this time.

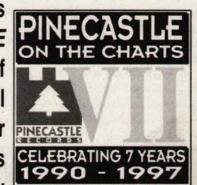
Members who have questions about these policies and/or would like to take an active part in your Bluegrass Association, are invited and encouraged to attend any and all meetings of the Board of Directors. The November meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 8, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Paul and Yvonne Gray, 5822 Larcom Lane in Stockton, California. CBA members are invited to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors. Please call the CBA office at (209) 293-1559 or any Director for directions, to confirm the time and place of the meeting, or for further infor-



BUNNINGE



Time is running out for Bluegrass music fans to pick up on some FREE MUSIC! It's easy... purchase any of Pinecastle's 1998 releases and you'll get a redemption certificate good for our Anniversary CD, which contains fourteen chart hits released by



Pinecastle artists over the past seven years! PLUS... when you receive this free CD, you're automatically registered to win a FREE trip to the 1999 I.B.M.A. convention*, as well as dozens of other prizes!

But hurry! When they're gone... they're gone!

PURCHASE ANY OF THESE GREAT NEW RELEASES AND GET OUR BIRTHDAY CD FREE!

RARELY HERD: Coming Of Age • OSBORNE BROTHERS: Hyden • JIM & JESSE: Songs From The Homeplace SPECIAL CONSENSUS: Our Little Town • DON WAYNE RENO: Heroes • VARIOUS ARTISTS: Bluegrass '98 CONTINENTAL DIVIDE: Feel Good Day • RENO BROTHERS: Three Part Harmony NEW COON CREEK GIRLS: Our Point Of View • VARIOUS ARTISTS: Blue Ridge Mountain Fiddle EDDIE & MARTHA ADCOCK: Spirited • LARRY STEPHENSON BAND: On Fire EMERSON & NEWTON: A Foot In The Past, A Foot In The Future • SOUTHERN RAIL: Wasting My Time NEW TRADITION: Daddy On His Knees • BILL HARRELL: Webco Classics Volume 4 RARELY HERD: Live From Kissimmee, Florida (video)

*Write for contest rules to address below. Void where prohibited by law. No purchase required. For information on how to enter, send SASE to Pinecastle Birthday Contest. P.O. Box 456. Orlando, FL 32802. Must be 18 years of age or older.

PARTICIONE PARTICIONES PARTICI

Pinecastle Records • Dept. cbb1198 • 5108 S. Orange Ave. • Orlando, FL 32809
1-800-473-7773 • 407-856-0245 • FAX 407-858-0007 • Web Site: http://pinecastle.com • Email: info@pinecastle.com

CBA membership elects Board of Directors for 1998/99

During the CBA's Fall Campout, Annual Meeting and Election on the weekend of October 2-4, in Colusa, California, a record voter turn-out elected the Board of Directors for 1998/99.

Election Committee Chairperson, Anne Dye announced the election results during the Annual Membership Meeting after the Dessert Potluck on Saturday night. The voter turn-out for this election was more than 27% of the CBA's 2500 + membership. In the past, it has sometimes been difficult to reach the quorum of 10%. The Board of Directors offer thanks to all who cast their ballots in this election.

Members of the Election Committee were: Anne Dye, (Chair), Faye Downs, Edla Albee, Dorothy McCoy, Janet Quesenberry, Maggy Stemas, Grace Reynolds, Jackie Nichols and Carolyn Hancock. Anne Dye said, "I would like to give special thanks to those who helped me count the ballots. They did an excellent job and made my job go like clock work".

The results of the election and the ballots cast were as follows:

Number of Ballots Recieved:

Mailed 568
Cast at Plymouth 129
Cast at Colusa 20
Sub Total 717
Invalid 12
Total Ballots Cast 705

The nine candidates with the highest votes are the new Board Members for 1998/99. In number order, they are:

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Carl Pagter*	590
Mary Runge*	537
Don Denison*	533
J.D. Rhynes *	511
Al Shusterman*	452
Yvonne Gray *	440
Lolan Ellis*	435
Kelly Senior*	415
Harold Crawford*	390
Joe Fox	336
Marsha Wooldridge	290
Joe Quealy - 175	
*Indicates top 9 candi	idates

Write-In candidates:
Pat Conway — 1
Elena Corey — 2
John Duncan — 2
Mark Giuseponi — 1
John Green — 1
Kathy Kirkpatrick — 1
George Martin — 4
Tim Mantz — 2
Ryan Richelson — 2
Bob Thomas — 4
Whitney Washburn — 3

The 1998/99 Board will be selecting officers and festival coordinators at its November meeting which will be held on Sunday, November 8, 1999 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Paul and Yvonne Gray, 5822 Larcom Lane in Stockton, California. CBA members are invited to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors. Please call the CBA office at (209) 293-1559 or any Director for directions or futher information.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Enjoyed Colusa Campout

Dear Editor:

The fall campout at Colusa was a wonderful weekend of music. I love bluegrass festivals, but there is something very special about an event where people can gather for a weekend just to pick and sing, without worrying what they are missing on stage.

During the campout I participated in several jams, with skill levels varying from near beginner to a few songs that I wouldn't be embarrassed to duplicate in front of an audience.

I had two "highs" during the weekend. The first was picking Friday night with members of the Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band. With their singer, Shirley's, high voice we stacked harmonies in different ways and it was a musical thrill. They are all nice, friendly people and their music is terrific (originals, too). Check them out when you can.

Another musician I enjoyed enormously was a fiddle player

named Cletus (or Cletis?) Smith. He's somewhere in his late '60s or early '70s but played almost constantly all weekend, except when he drove off the campout site to play a gig in Chico!

Finally, thanks to mandolin player Zeke Griffin (or Griffith?) who offered us the use of his espresso machine, which he had plugged into an RV connector on a power pole, to make our morning cappuccino. And to all the folks who made such delicious food for the pot luck dinner.

If you like to jam, these campouts are worth going to.

Sincerely, George R. Martin #4918 Point Richmond, CA

Editor's note: Thank you George for sharing your CBA campout experience with our readers. The "Shirley" in Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band is Shirley Gerber. Cletus Smith is a long-time CBA member who lives in Quincy, CA. Thanks to all who attended the Fall campout.

So you want to be a volunteer?

By Allen Light

It's been four months since the Father's Day Festival and finally the time has come to write this article. I just finished a great 3 day weekend at the Fall Campout in Colusa, and what a great time we all had. We thought the weather would play havoc with the jams, but no cigar. It was terrific. Those of you who couldn't make it there — well, you know what they say, "Boy you really missed a great jam!".

But I am writing this to you (CBA members) for one reason. At the Annual Meeting in Colusa, Carl Pagter and the new board members were up in front asking the audience, (who by the way were munching the best desserts in the world), if they had any questions of the board.

Well, I raised my hand and started asking questions. Mary Runge began answering some questions of mine and as the conversation progressed about whether or not the Father's Day Festival would continue at Grass Valley, I mentioned something about volunteering at the front gate. Well, that sparked a feeling that I had to impart to the group. I began talking about people volunteering at the festival as a means of enhancing their own experience as well as passing that on to other festival goers.

When I volunteered to work the front gate for 12 hours, I had buyer's remorse. I thought, "Gee, 12 hours on the gate, give me a break. I won't be able to jam in the morning or Friday (during the) day." I was going to make an excuse to back out.

Well, I didn't. And I have got to tell you that my experience of the festival became so much fun after that. Here are the reasons: I greeted 200 or more people and met them. Got a chance to say hello, welcome them to the festival and assist them in finding their way.

I made so many new friends in the process because when it came time to go jamming in the evening, I found people that I had assisted at the gate to jam with and it was like we knew each other, rather than just walking into a strange jam and saying, "Hello. Mind if I join you?". I met Pat Ickes and his lovely wife at the gate and since then have begun to jam at the various functions with Pat and his group.

In other words, it was a great introduction to new pickers and friends. I make it a habit of walking the festival grounds and meeting new people and jamming with them. You can also do the same. Your experience at the festival becomes greatly enhanced by volunteering and assisting others in having a great time. It is also a way to give back to an organization, the CBA, which supports and promotes



old-time music and bluegrass in California. This Bluegrass Association is the best in the country. Just ask any bluegrass band where they would like to play in June.

An old saying someone once told me, "When you can give it away, you get it." That means, passing the puck so someone else can make a goal. That means making an experience for someone else as pleasurable as you would like to have it when you attend a festival. When people find out how much fun and great it is to volunteer, we will have waiting lists. You become part of the festival when you volunteer. It becomes your festival, not the

CBA's.

So when next year comes around and you're making plans to attend the Father's Day Festival, inquire from one of the Board Members who is in charge of assisting at the festival. Take that opportunity to give a hand. We can use good people like you.

Editor's note: Allen Light is a CBA member who lives in Rancho Murietta, California. If you would like to become a part of the CBA's Festival Team, please call our Volunteer Coordinator Faye Downs at (707) 552-6934. Suzanne

19Th Annual Four Corner States Bluegrass Festival and Fiddle Championship set for November 13-15

Just in time to escape the fall fog and rain, the 19th Annual Four Corner States Bluegrass Festival and Fiddle Championship will take place November 13-15, 1998 in Wickenburg, Arizona. The event is held at the Arizona Rodeo Grounds on Constellation Road, about 45 minutes Northwest of Phoenix.

Featured entertainers include The Tylers and Tippecanoe, High Plains Tradition, and The Hat Band. The Fiddle Championship and various other contests offer over \$6,500 in prize money to the winners. Contest categories include: Specialty Vocals, Specialty Instruments, Family Bands, Banjo Championship, Bluegrass Band Scramble, Old Time Country Bands, Flat Pick Guitar, and a number of Fiddle classes.

Pre-registration is required for contestants and camping. Tickets are now available. For information or ticket orders, contact the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce at 520-684-5479 or visit their website at: <www.wickenburgchamber.com>.

4Th Annual Bluegrass Days slated for Feb. 20 & 21

The Arizona Bluegrass & Old-Time Musicians Association presents the 4th Annual Pioneer Bluegrass Days at Pioneer, Arizona on February 20 & 21, 1999.

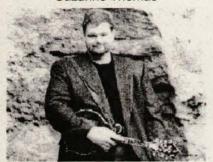
Featuring Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys - (all day Sunday), The Shady Creek Band (host band/1998 Southwest Pizza Hut International Bluegrass Showdown champions); Paradox Bluegrass, Grasswhackers, Out of the Blue, Goldrush, The Hillwallys, and a special reunion of Front Page Dry Camping is available as well as all night jams; workshops; kids activities; working Old Western Town; shopping/restaurant; Sunday morning worship service by the Christian Cowboy Assn.; and an RV exhibit.

For further information, contact Candice Miracle (602) 842-1102; e-mail: theamba@aol.com; or write to Festival Coordinator, 8008 W. Tuckey Ln., Glendale, AZ 85303.

Fall 1998 Palo Alto Bluegrass Series



Suzanne Thomas



Don Rigsby



Kathy Kallick Band

Friday, November 20

Palo Alto Unitarian Church 8:00 PM, doors open 7:30 General Admission \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door



Bill Evans



Missy Raines, Jim Hurst

Suzanne Thomas

(Dry Branch Fire Squad),

Don Rigsby

(Lonesome River Band, Longview)

and Friends

(Bill Evans, Missy Raines, Jim Hurst)

Bluegrass, old-time and gospel music, featuring songs from the new releases by Suzanne ("Dear Friends and Gentle Hearts") and Don ("A Vision")

"A commanding singer with a broad, expressive range, a deep knowledge of country idioms and some 30 years in the music business ... Suzanne is the real deal." - Jon Weissberger, No Depression magazine

"Don Rigsby is the new best singer in bluegrass music." -- Ron Thomason, Dry Branch Fire Squad

Saturday, December 5

Palo Alto Unitarian Church 8:00 PM, doors open 7:30 General Admission \$14 in advance, \$16 at the door

Kathy Kallick Band

Release party for a new bluegrass CD, "Walkin' In My Shoes", with Tom Bekeny, Avram Siegel and Amy Stenberg.

The Kathy Kallick Band plays a distinctive and powerful brand of west coast bluegrass, drawing on their extensive experience with the region's top traditional and progressive bluegrass bands, and brilliantly complementing the singing and songwriting talents of Kathy Kallick.

Presented by



Co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society

Location:

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto 505 E. Charleston Rd. (near Middlefield Rd.) Palo Alto, CA

Concert info:

(650) 691-9982 Web Site: http://www.rba.org/

Discounts:

scbs members receive a \$1 per ticket additional discount on advance mail orders only. Children under 12, ½ price.

Tickets by Mail:

Redwood Bluegrass Associates P.O. Box 390846 Mountain View, CA 94039-0846

(Please enclose a selfaddressed business size stamped envelope along with your check or money order).

Tickets in Stores:

Gryphon Stringed Instruments Palo Alto (650) 493-2131

Joplin & Sweeney Los Gatos (408) 395-7818

Tickets by Phone:

Call Back Home Music for credit card orders at 1-800-746-TUNE (1-800-746-8863). Cost including the service charge is \$2 over the door price of the ticket.

Bluegrass Folks -- J.D. Rhynes

by Bill Wilhelm

Here is someone who needs no introduction around bluegrass music circles, but somehow I find myself doing it anyhow. If his "JD's Bluegrass Kitchen" articles of long standing in this publication aren't enough to introduce him, his stage appearances as master of ceremonies surely are.

He's the big guy whose stage presence makes you think he just stepped out of a western movie and you just know that whatever band he introduces to come out there next has just gotta be good. In talking with some band members, they say he even inspires them to be at their best.

We were talking about his MC work and he said, "I guess that kinda happened by accident. Back several years ago, Rose (Maddox) was appearing with Vern (Williams) and the boys. Ray Edlund was entertainment coordinator. He asked me to handle the Saturday night MC job. Even though I was playing bass for Vern then, I managed to do it. Then I kept getting asked back after that at other events. Then from that I've been asked to handle the MC jobs in lots of other places, even in other states wherever our kind of music was being played."

JD was born in Arkansas, but grew up in Stockton, California. He describes his father as being as good a harmonica player as ever "came down the Pike" and he also mentions having several uncles who were good musicians. In fact, one of these played fiddle left handed, but in a style similar to the jazz style of Joe Holly of Bob Wills' Texas Playboys.

JD and his family came to California in 1941 right at the end of the dust bowl period. The Rhynes' family's purpose was different from that of the dust bowl victims. JD had an older brother who had suf-

fered and recently died of Leukemia. Being an especially close family, that was a terrible shock. His father said that as a result, that there were such bad memories there that they would just pack up and go search for a new life.

They headed west and JD recalls the labor camps they saw along the way and although he was a very little boy, his memory is as vivid as if it were yesterday. There were many families and they were very poor, searching for work and the promised land.

The Rhynes family settled in Stockton near where a young man by the name of Ray Park lived. He and JD, both being interested in this string music even from child-hood met early on and have been friends for all these many years. He said Ray told him that before they got settled in they had moved around so much that their chickens would lie down to get their feet tied together just so they could move again. Then he quotes Chester Smith as saying that "the Okies took California without firing a shot!"

J.D. continues: "Then when I was ten years old and I had been badgering my dad to buy me a fiddle so much he got tired of hearing about it. He said, 'OK, I'll buy you one and you ARE gonna learn to play it.' Well he bought me a good one from an old lady for 25 dollars and that was about half of his pay check for the week. He also paid for lessons for me, but since there weren't any fiddle instructors around I took classical violin lessons for several years, until I was 16 or 17 years old. At least that gave me a good musical start." He likewise says that his ambition is to play fiddle better than Ray Park, but don't worry, Ray. J.D. also says he knows that will never happen, as that would make him one of the best in the



FOUR BLUEGRASS FRIENDS -- (1-r) Ken Reynolds, Don Evans, J.D. Rhynes and Dale Lawrence pose back stage during the 1998 Late Summer Bluegrass Festival.

Photo by Howard Gold

world

Likewise, he has known Vern Williams for many years. "I was able to make the transition from classical violin to bluegrass fiddle. I played guitar (as I still do) back then and we all played music at various places together including fiddle contests. That was fun, but nothing like bluegrass festivals. We got to know Jack Sadler, Carl Pagter and Jay (Jake) Quesenberry who all played music. The CBA was formed and the Grass Valley Festival was started. Then we had a large place to play and it has become the premiere festival in the West." He further says that Del McCoury told him a long time ago that any musician back east would ride a bicycle out to Grass Valley just to get to play

there

This reminds me that JD recently gave Ronnie McCoury his very special 1943 Martin 0017 guitar that he had had for many years. Ronnie was wanting to get a good guitar, but had no idea he would ever own a prize such as that. JD's thinking was that the guitar was just laying around the house, an excellent instrument, but doing no one any good. This kid is a superb musician, needs a good instrument and it will be put to good use for a lifetime.

JD further observes that after going back east several times to IBMA events and seeing what they have to offer, there is no doubt that we have the best location, and the best weather, food, music and the crowd. "California bluegrass crowds are among the most appreciative in the world," says JD. Both he and I have likewise been told that by some top entertainers we've had out here.

His contributions to bluegrass music have been and continue to be many. Did I mention that he has recorded with Rose Maddox? He not only loves the music, knows the music, plays the music, but continues to do all he can for the music. By the way, the next time you try one of his recipes, tell him about it. That helps make it all worth while for him. The world of bluegrass would indeed be hard pressed, were it not for the input from those such as JD Rhynes.

Birds and Bluegrass?

Yes -- we're talking about Early Birds...

CBA members who purchase Early Bird Discount Tickets for the 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Bluegrass Festival SAVE \$\$\$\$

Now through February 28, 1999
Use the ticket order form on page 17 of this issue to get your Festival tickets and save up to \$25 on gate prices for the same tickets!

"A Winter Night's Yeow" concert series announced

COLUMBIA, CA — local musician and concert organizer, Ron DeLacy is pleased to announce the fourth annual "A Winter Night's Yeow" concert series. The series has been expanded this year to eight shows in five counties.

Bands to perform at all concerts are Sourdough Slim and the Saddle Pals, Doodoo Wah, and The Foothillbillys. All of three of these bands entertain audiences with both excellent acoustic music and a great and funny stage show.

Sourdough Slim and the Saddle
Pals are Sourdough Slim Crowder
of Paradise and Christine
Stephenson and Bob Cole of
LaGrange, California. Their performances include Western Swing,
Jazz, Old-time Country, and Bluegrass music, as well as great costumes and humor.

Doodoo Wah, from Columbia, California is Ron DeLacy and Dave Cavenaugh. Most of the music they perform is written by one or both of the partners. Both Ron and Dave play a variety of instruments, and their material is both musically interesting and hilariously funny.

The Foothillbillys are Greg and Maggie Jean Osborne of Fiddletown, "Cousin Dave" Rainwater of Mountain Ranch, Julio Guerra of Sonora, and Lowell Daniels of Fiddletown, California. The Foothillbillys perform old-timey music with an individual "twist". Some of their material is original, and some taken from other musical genres, but all of it is entertaining.

All of the "Winter Night's Yeow" Concerts will begin at 8 p.m. and will be held as follows:

- December 4 The Salt Mine, Lincoln, CA.
- December 18 & 19 Sutter Creek
 Theater, Sutter Creek, CA
- January 2 The State Theatre, Modesto, CA
- January 8 & 9 Holman Foundry Playhouse, Sonora, CA
- January 15 & 16 Merced College Theatre, Merced, CA
 Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Advance tickets are recommended since all shows in the past three years have been sold out.

For tickets or information, call (209) 533-4464 or send ticket order with check and SASE to: Ballum Rancum Records, P.O. Box 1500, Columbia, CA 95310.

Music Matters — "I've Got Rhythm"

by Elena Corey

Because the melodic and harmonic elements of music are so lush and beautiful, they frequently receive more attention than the third leg of the musical tripodrhythm. Rhythm is a giant of a concept, but it can be as enticing and interesting as are melody and harmony. Besides it is fun! The human acquaintance with music may begin in toddler-hood with chants, hand-clapping, rope-jumping and other rhythmic exercises, which may lead us as adults to assume that the rhythm component of music is much less difficult than the others. The fact that identifying the melody (much less singing harmony) is difficult for some people, for example, may perpetuate the impression that duration is merely an elementary building block of music upon which melody and then harmony are sequentially stacked as one becomes more astute and discriminating musically. Of course, volume-or loudness-is overlooked entirely in such thinking.

In the realm of bluegrass and old-timey music, rhythm may be the most compromised element of music. People who wouldn't think of tampering with a songwriter's melody may not show such sensitivity when push comes to shove regarding maintaining a steady tempo or considering some individual notes' durations. Indeed, spoken or unspoken disagreements about tempo, meter, duration and such aspects of rhythmic expression are most frequently cited as reasons for discontinuing playing with selected pickers. We've all heard comments like, "Well I'd like to play with X, but he speeds up everything." or "I don't know where Y learned to count."

Lest the wary reader merely bypass ambition in rhythmic improvement, let us note, early on, that all life operates in rhythms. The tides of the ocean, the seasons of the year, the return of a swing when you push it, and many other examples (short of dragging in the overworked example of the boomerang), all exhibit a sure sense of timing. Our ears' perceptions of rhythms may not be as highly developed or as confident as are our internal rhythmic processes, but they can be developed. Anyone can improve his sense of rhythm. Exercises exist which are helpful to the development of duration perception just as surely as sit-ups and crunches exist to shame a person into abdominal muscle development. Improving one's rhythm is probable if even a little bit of attention is given to the subject.

As children, we didn't question our sense of timing. We accept that the swing will return to the point from where Mom or Dad pushed it, and further believe that

our human support system will be there to initiate and maintain the swing's rhythmic path. We don't get impatient for the swing to hurry back to the point of push; we enjoy the ride out and the ride back. Likewise, if we are fortunate enough as children to be near an ocean and to observe ocean waves, we soon take their reliability and timing for granted (after an initial question or two about why they behave as they do).

We trust the rhythms of the universe, and include them as basic assumptions about life. We can also trust that we possess internal knowledge of rhythm in its various components. We can learn to trust that the "push" of the beat will return on its own, we don't have to hurry it, as beginning lead instrumentalists frequently are guilty of doing. We can know that our individual sense of timing may not be 100% congruent with the picker standing next to us, but that subtle accommodation can be accomplished discretely, if we value playing music with that person, so that no one will need to feel "wrong."

(Continued on Page 10)

The Kathy Kallick Band

invites you to celebrate the release of their new album,

Walkin' In My Shoes

Saturday, Dec. 5

8 pm

Tickets: \$14 advance \$16 door



Palo Alto Unitarian Church

505 E. Charleston Palo Alto

Advance tickets: tickets@rba.org or through Back Home Music: 800-746-TUNE

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Music Matters -- "I've Got Rhythm"

(Continued from Page 9)

In traditional music, disparate views regarding meterare quite common. Some people enjoy deliberately playing with the way the beats cluster in sets, seeing how else the arrangement might be possible. Poly-rhythmic experiments and such feats as changing a waltz into a march are common among folks who enjoy playing with rhythm. As quickly as the reliability of the beat could be taken as an assumption and one's consciousness allowed to digress to other matters, playful folk began experimenting with contra-rhythm and individual expression. Negro spirituals, for instance, have survived with a strong underlying rhythm but with expressive ingenuity which allows the singer's emotions to vary the rendition of the song, making the rhythm of the song express whatever the singer wanted to build over the basic rhythm.

Certain musical instruments lend themselves particularly well to highlighting certain aspects of timing, e.g. syncopation. In orchestral and popular big band music, for instance, brass instruments such as trumpets, trombones, French horns and even tubas brilliantly capitalized upon their cutting tonal capabilities to suggest syncopated rhythms. In bluegrass and old-timey music, the mandolin and banjo have become known for such chops. Traditional music, in its many forms has used the rhythm part of the music for assorted other non-musical duration markers. Harvesting cotton was long aided by the reliable beat of the lead caller in field chants. Boating, whether by pole barge or speedy rowing has also benefited from the regularity of the musical beat of work-leaders

The perception of meter is strongly influenced and conditioned by tempo -that is, the faster the piece is played, the fewer the strong beats one is likely to stress. Conversely, at very slow tempos, beats may be perceived as equally strong, and subsidiary weaker beats will then insert themselves after the now strengthened (formerly weaker) beats. Thus, "SHA-na-na," when played at dirge speed may resemble "SHA and NA and NA and.

Meter is not always clear or simple; for instance, when more than one rhythm is sounded at the same time, some folks may think the resulting sound must be very deep and complex. Other folks may just think the rhythm is muddy, even though each aspect of the polyrhythm may be played strongly. i.e. If you're standing between two banjo players.

Duration is a big part of rhythm. There is a mathematical relationship expressed in duration, such as a half note is played for half the time

a whole note is played, and a quarter note is only played a fourth of the time a whole note is played. Most musicians grasp this aspect of rhythm the most clearly of all the components of rhythm, so it can be used as a starting point upon which to improve the other parts of rhythm, such as phrasing.

In classical music, some composers in certain schools of thought, such as Ravel and Debussy of the impressionists, have their works characterized by varied, flexible rhythms and disguised pulses. Prior to 1600, the overall pace of a piece of music played from notation had to be deduced from Italian words which translated to such things as "Slowly", Moderate", "Walking" or "Very fast." This obviously wasn't

very precise, since one person's walking pace might be either slow or fast to another person. To alleviate such problems, an 18th century inventor, a Dutchman named Dietrich Kikolaus Winkel, came up with a compound pendulum which marked time for musicians. Then, in the 19th century, a musician named Johann Maelzel examined Winkel's device, readily saw ways to improve it, and promptly created the device we call a metronome, which we still use to attain precision. All musicians should become more conscious of rhythm, and folks who sometimes forego ultimate precision for feeling explain that while a metronome is always accurate and precise, it lacks a groove which expressive players crave. So, some loosening up or varying the beat (as in rubato) is frequently encouraged to allow one's inner rhythm to express itself.

For those interested in having fun while developing their rhythmic sense, here are a few suggestions: a) swing every other measure; b) identify the strong beats in a series of measures we hear; c) try to guess the name of a familiar song while someone else taps out its beats; d) try to match rhythms with another person, e.g. through clapping at the same time or repeating the pattern, after the person has finished the phrase;) create answering or intervening rhythmic patterns/ phrases to some very familiar songs you already play; f) sing one rhythmic pattern and play a different one on your instrument; g) change the "feel" of a familiar song by giving it a different rhythmic pulse, e.g. turn a bluegrass standard into a Latin-beat or Cajun beat

As we go about the business of living, whether we're listening to the tick-tock of an old (non digital) clock or to the clacking of train wheels, windshield wipers, or even Rover's incessant barking at that intruder, we tend to impose a sense of order upon the perceptions our ears offer us; we create rhythms for ourselves. Yes, we organize our perception of musical time by means of rhythm, and we allow ourselves to be submerged in larger-than-life rhythms we feel.

Happy picking to you.

Music Crossword Puzzle

by Elena Corey **Crossword Clues**

- 1. Flatt's instrument
- 7. Bluegrass father
- 13. Saunter
- 14. Street
- 16. Claustrophobia victim's complaint
- Computer company name + corporation
- Representative
- 20. View briefly
- 21. Afternoon social
- 22. VIP occupational hazard
- Branch Fire Squad
- Some kind of an engineer
- Syllable of hesitation
- 27. Health resort
- 28. Atomic Energy Nascent
- 30. Ourselves
- 31. Linked string
- knowwhy" Allison's refrain
- Has permission
- 36. Undesired sound
- Cause quester
- Reno
- 41. Alternative to a pick
- Electronic particle Snake or luxury wrap
- 45. Mood music
- Nashville Blue-Station grass landmark
- Banish
- 51. Adenoidal sound
- Colloquial request to repeat 54.
- Non-flying bird
- Annov
- Non-paternal parent
- Meaning, in short
- 61. Female name
- 63. Picnic critter
- 64. Sun. Preceder
- Zoological suffix
- 67. A dog's tail's preference
- 69. Laying creatures
- Неер
- Teacher's org.
- 73. Old Italian music theory teacher
- 74. Guitar manufacturer
- 75. Guitar manufacturer

1	2	3	4	5			6		7	8	9	10	11	12
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17					18				19		20			
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74	-								75					

Down:

- 1. Having entry security
- Brown-gray color
- Musician's org.
- A needed commodity Southerner's musical key
- Declaration of possession 6.
- Atop 9. Negatives
- 20. Speed contest
- 11. Scrambled vowels
- 12. Mr. Tubb
- 14. Long, long
- 15. Completion
- 18. Repeat command
- 19. Barter
- 22. Clean air and water protector

- -Man, workman category
- 27. Bashful
- 29. Wind direction
- 31. Nautical vehicle
- Worthy of a hero
- Description of water
- Tangible or intangible object
- Horde
- Promise of payment
- 39. Looming frontally
- 44. Hewing tool
- The proverbial
- object 46. 30S band and beat music
- gauge strings

Solution on Page 31

- " beginning selfdescriptor
- 52. Subjective view of one's creations
- 53. Guitar virtuoso
- Geometric surface
- 58. Musical instrument, in short
- 60. Average
- 62. Negative prefix
- 63. Car traveler's aid
- 64. Julio's six
- 66. Consume
- 68. Very small
- 69. Center
- Greeting 71.
- 73. Military person

The California Bluegrass Association Presents...

SUZANNE THOMAS/DON RIGSBY AND FRIENDS IN CONCERT





Come and enjoy an evening of exciting Bluegrass music with us. You'll hear the beautiful voice of Rounder Recording Artist Suzanne Thomas and the Mandolin Magic of Sugar Hill Recording Artist Don Rigsby (of the Lonesome River Band) With their friends Bill Evans - Banjo - Missy Raines - Bass and Jim Hurst - Guitar Saturday, November 21, 1998 At Mesa Verde High School 7600 Lauppe Lane in Citrus Heights, California Doors open at 6:00 p.m. -- Concert at 7:00 p.m.

> Tickets now available by mail: Adults \$13 for CBA members -- \$15 for non-members Teenagers (13-18) \$4 with paid adult or \$4 without adult - Children 12 and under \$4 each

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CBA Concert Tickets c/o Al Shusterman 5717 Reinhold Street Fair Oaks, CA 95628

For further information, call Al Shusterman (916) 961-9511

Further Travels of a Bluegrass Junkie

by M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper

Patti Crooker has a festival in Maine good enough that Carl Pagter and I always talk about it expectantly. We look forward to heading North and East of California for a 4 Day Labor Day Weekend get together with our friends that come to beautiful 65 acre Thomas Point Beach. Patti's flyer exults: "The Spirit of beautiful Thomas Point and Bluegrass Music!..Experience the 'Magic' again!" The fact is that she has us "hooked for life".

Now, I wrote that "intro" paragraph at least a 6 or 7 weeks ago when Joyce Everett was forming my folder for this season's travels. As she was going on a new "State" job, it was too much to expect her to come over with Jim and type my article for the next issue of The Breakdown while Jim and I visited and played CDs.

So-hang on-here we go: On Wednesday, September 2nd, I drove to my grand daughter Summer's house, picked her up and went to the airport. As I had one of Carl Pagter's banjos with me, I had to get there early enough to check one of my bags. Airlines have new rules for pickers that have in the past been able to carry their instruments to their seats and put them in overhead bins. I had to leave the banjo at the entrance door on the plane, they carried it below and stored it then when I got to Portland, Maine, they handed it to me (at the door) as I left the plane.

At least you don't have to check it at the counter and send it on a belt to where the gorillas smash it up. I assume all airlines have this policy now. When I arrived in Cincinnati, I had to wait over an hour, as the Pilot and some other crew members were in Atlanta, setting through a rain so hard everything was grounded.

Carl waited for me to land in Portland, some 2 hours late. It was near midnight when we got to the Atrium Hotel at Cooks Corner in Brunswick, Maine; put our bags up and drove the mile to the festival grounds. After we got our wrist bands, which you have to wear at all times inside the "Park", Carl drove to Eddie Greenwood's camp-site. Sure-enough, a jam was in "full swing". Everyone greeted us, and the music continued, we listened and visited until after 2 am.

When we got back to The Atrium I had been up at least 20 hours - some 10 hours of it in an airport or on a plane, and was tired enough to sleep soundly! The next 4 nights, I didn't have time to enjoy that luxury again — mainly because Thursday the official 1998 opening "Welcome" start of the festival was at 1:00 p.m. (the next 3 days started at 9 am).

Patti's 15 year old son, Michael

(in his Boy Scout uniform) called the folks to the stage area in a beautifully unique way, and handled the opening ceremonies. I like that boy — and not just because he wears Oshkosh overalls when he is working while the festival is going on.

Years ago, when Vi Jean and I were traveling to Bluegrass festivals all over the U S of A, and I was writing articles about them for The Breakdown, Mike Bub, Terry Eldredge, Ronnie McCoury, and other musicians told me: "You haven't seen Thomas Point Beach yet, and until you do, reserve your judgment on where the best festival is put on".—how right they were! In the last three years I have been going to this festival, and I have to agree with my musician friends, that it is exceptional and one of the best.

As Maine touches Canada on it's East, North, and West borders, there are a lot of our Canadian friends that come to this festival. Naturally Patti includes them in her WELCOME FRIENDS opening article: "A hearty hello from all of us. As we go into our third decade, it's wonderful to have each one of you here with us to share in the magic of this very special Bluegrass Festival-we are proud to pay tribute to all of our Northern Fans from Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and throughout Canada. This year's 21st Annual Festival is dedicated to YOU for your years of continued support, loyalty and friendship. Thank you one and all. You have proved that 'Music has no Borders!" Given the exchange rate of Canada's money to US dollars, it really cost our Northern friends to come to Patti's festival-and is "proof positive" that she has a show worth coming to.

My friends Joan and Sheila from N.C. came last year (and really loved it). Work schedule kept them from coming this year—but they wrote me: next year we'll be back!

After the opening ceremonies the shows started with Canadian Grass Unit, then the Bogus Family Band; two really good entertaining bands from Canada followed by The Larry Stephenson Band. Larry has probably the best band he has ever had, with Kristian Scott on banjo, Mickey. Harris-acoustic bass, and super guitar player Jeff Autry.

They were followed by a showcase of bands competing for a "spot on stage at next years festival" for one thing, and other prizes. After the winner and runner-up were announced, Larry Stephenson's band closed the days stage music then jamming began in earnest!

Patti's line-up featured the Nashville Bluegrass Band, the Del McCoury Band, JD Crowe and The New South, the Lynn Morris Band, the Warrior River Boys, the Gibson

Brothers, the Fox Family, Country Ham, and the Freight Hoppers; mixed with a dozen other bands from Canada and the US of A. In addition, she had Ryan Holladay and I wrote to the Bgrass-L list: "A few things should be said about this 6 year old banjo picker and singer. He's the youngest to ever play and sing at The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee. I have seen him there, also at other Bluegrass Events around Nashville. Oh yes, Darrell Adkins had him on his stage at Hoover Y Park, near Columbus, Ohio; that's where Earl Scruggs played June 27th."

In The Galt House at IBMA's week of "talent showcase" last October, he played (for his first time) a resophonic guitar, sitting on a couch on the second floor - the crowd was so big, one could hardly get to the IBMA WELCOME counter. He's so amazing that some of the things he can do border on "Genius". But, for me to write everything about it would spoil some of his "on stage show" - and he does a full set. Heck, I couldn't hold a banjo up that long. Maybe some time soon, someone will get him to California - and everyone here can see what I mean. I hope so!

Last month I wrote of how Bill
Grant programs his festival so
"evenly". Patti Crooker is another
that understands how to do this,
also recognizing how important
Jams are to everyone. She makes
sure each day's music on stage is
over by 10 p.m.—the restaurant The
Loose Caboose stays open until the
"jamming" finishes—sometimes all
night. It is a good source of latenight food for those of us who sometimes forget to eat. You know I am
one of them.

As soon as the stage show is over, jams start in front of or near The Loose Caboose. Nearby is a huge tent where others are doing the same. It didn't rain this year, but if it did everyone would have just moved under cover, and the music would have gone on. Sometimes it is hard for me to decide where to settle down. The band Canadian Grass Unit has a fine jam in their camp. I always stay and listen when I get to them. Also at The Case Brother's camp; Andy Cartoun and Dick Bowden gather good pickers around them. Dick not only is a super MC, he sings, and I think he knows every good song ever written. But my home away from home is Eddie Greenwood's camp - most of my friends at this festival end up there at one time-or-another. And Eddie's sons (and one daughter in-law) are super pickers and singers.

Eddie doesn't usually join in the jams there. It is his camp, and he plays the Host part "to the hilt", making sure seats and refreshments



M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper

Photo by Miles Ward

are available to everyone. At times, when no jams are going on there, he gets out his guitar and puts on a one-man show of his own - from " The Cremation of Sam McGee", to Hobo and other traveling songs, mixed with sad songs of life lived and love lost, that somehow mistones eyes. Eddie proves the old saying " it's not what you got, it's what you do with it". The way he does some of those old songs, brings back a lot of Yesterdays Memories to me, and I'm sure to others that stop and listen to him. Most of the time, he has other friends that gather around-sometimes adding songs of their own. Nowhere else have I seen this done at a festival.

The last time I saw Eddie it was near 3 am Monday morning—a jam was going "full blast", and I said so long for now to him and his. Patti had made sure I was full of lobster and memories, before making sure I got to the Atrium Hotel. I got all of two hours sleep before calling Carl and heading to the Airport in Portland, where we went our separate ways. He went to San Francisco via Chicago and I went to Sacramento via Cincinnati, in my head hearing music and re-living memories.

When I got to the Sacramento airport, and started up the passage-way from the plane to the terminal, the 104 degree heat hit me so hard I wanted to re-board the plane, and go back East. It's a good thing Summer Rae was there to take my bags and go turn the car's air conditioning on. When I got home, it was so hot, I turned on the air conditioner, and then went to the next town North to do my grocery shopping. Home was cool when I returned. Sitting here thinking of our bluegrass family.

I'll close with this story: on Saturday morning when Carl and I arrived at the festival, we noticed a

couple with T shirts that were different. Carl pretended to notice them first, and asked if I could read what was on the backs of them. As we got closer, I saw that the back of the shirts had the back of a pair of overalls with a sign "The Bluegrass Junkie" imprinted on them. When they turned around, the front had HAPPY BIRTHDAY PEPPER on them-what a surprise to me on my 75th Birthday. Then I noticed a lot more people had the same shirts on. George and Etta Crawford (my New York friends) told me that I should ask everyone I saw wearing one of my birthday shirts, where they got it. The stories I got from dozens of people were all funnymost, not repeatable in mixed com-

Carl said his had been delivered to him with return address of the Unibomber, he called the bomb squad. They took it out of the package for him-cleanest story of many. At supper break, they announced that everyone with Junkie shirts should meet under the Big Clock. Patti's Manager Sheri Elder took me there and Patti came driving up. They took me to the office and gave me an official tee shirt that had been studded. I put it on, and Sterling Keller, Official Festival Photographer, took pictures of me glittering like diamonds with hundreds of friends, including Sheri, Patti, and me in our "studded shirts".

You can understand now why Thomas Point Beach in Brunswick, Maine is my favorite festival. When all the music on stage had been played, Patti's way of saying goodbye is: the cakes are cut that are near the concessions and she makes sure everyone has some to eat. Afterward she walks the roads to the campsites, visiting with everyone and thanking them for being there. To my knowledge, no other festival

Bluegrass News Notes

by Suzanne Denison

Band and Artist News Notes...

The Big Valley Band is pleased to announce that David Putnam, lead singer for Tenbrooks, has moved up to Colfax and agreed to join the Big Valley Band. He will be replacing Tim Prior on guitar and lead vocals. Also, Kevin Bennet will continue as their "Special Guest" fiddler on many of our gigs.

Dan Bernstein, added to his email message to the *Breakdown*, "I just spoke to David Putnam who informed me that Robbie McDonald, banjo player for Tenbrooks, was operated on this week for a brain tumor. The long term prognosis is not known.

David wanted to make sure that information regarding his joining the Big Valley Band also includes a statement saying that 'he looks forward to Robbie's swift recovery and that he plans to continue his association with Tenbrooks'."

The remaining members of the Big Valley Band are: Hal Horn, banjo; Randy Lamoreaux, bass; and Dan Bernstein, mandolin. For information and bookings contact either Randy at 916-687-8556 or Dan at 530-644-7005.

Record Company News Notes... Copper Creek announces New Releases

CC-0161 RANDALL HYLTON • (Love Songs) Touted as the most prolific songwriter in bluegrass, Randall has supplied material to the best in bluegrass (Ralph Stanley, Country Gentlemen, Doyle Lawson, etc.). He enjoys a steady following, working as a solo. His shows highlight his original material, Travisstyle guitar picking, and comedy. This collection makes use of nearly

Bluegrass Junkie

(From Previous Page)

owner or manager does this. As she closed the Festival, Patti's final message to all was: "Thank you for joining us for our 21 Annual Bluegrass Celebration. We hope that it was all that you hoped it to be! Great Music, old and new friends, laughter and treasured memories. Always remember 'MUSIC HAS NO BORDERS'. Until next year, Patti and Michael and all the 'Mighty Fine Staff' of the Thomas Point Beach Bluegrass Festival."



all original material, much of which was written as a tribute to his wife of many years, Patricia. Songs of note include Randall's renderings of several tunes that were well-received by other artists in recent years: Don't Stop Being You (Country Gentlemen) and My Heart Is Yours (Doyle Lawson). Randall also turns in a nice interpretation of Charlie Monroe's classic Sweetheart I Love You Best.

CC-0163 THE MONEYHUNS

• (Just as the Sun Went Down)



Copper Creek is pleased to make the music of this east Tennessee family gospel group available for general circulation. The group is comprised of two brothers and two sisters. Muscially, their style is (by choice) very simple; guitar and

acoustic bass provide the only instrumental backing. What makes this group special, though, is their lovely singing. They offer stunningly beautiful arrangements of songs that can be found in both bluegrass and gospel circles. To date, the group has issued four selfproduced cassette releases; this project makes use of the best tracks from these four issues.

CC-0164 BRAD LEFTWICH -TOM SAUBER - ALICE GERRARD •

(Continued on Page 14)



Bluegrass News Notes...

(Continued from Page 13)

(Tom Brad and Alice) Fans of oldtime music should delight in the vocal and instrumental sounds emanating from this well-known trio of tradition-laden musicians. Brad Leftwich is easily one of the best old-time fiddlers on the scene today, and Tom Sauber proves his equal in providing the fine old-timey banjo. Alice Gerrard, whose unfailing life-time commitment to oldtime music has won respect for her name the world over, supplies the sure guitar rhythms. While some members of the trio are noted for their instrumental contributions to old-time music (which is much in evidence here), this project is an excellent showcase for their combined vocal abilities as well.

In addition to a fine assortment of old-time tunes and songs (there's a generous twenty tracks all together), the trio applies old-time treatments to several bluegrass favorites: Little Glass Of Wine, I Know You're Married, and Blue Ridge Cabin Home.

For more information about Copper Creek Records releases or to obtain a catalog, write to: Copper Creek Records, P.O. Box 3161, Roanoke, VA24015. For much more information and to order product on-line, visit their website at: <www.coppercreekrec.com>

Pinecastle Records New Releases for Fall

Osborne Brothers - Hyden -As music fans everywhere would expect, this is another superb Osbornes album; this time, however, the music is tinged with the excitement of a sense of history being told for all the ages. Virtuoso singing and playing are filtered through a selection of material that simply glows with emotion and personality. Obviously, these are songs that truly mean a lot to these two. This is the first of a four-part anthology, chronicaling the musical influence of the Osborne Brothers from Hyden to the Ryman.

Special Consensus — Our Little Town - With "Our Little Town," fans of both traditional and progressive Bluegrass will appreciate the band's smooth combination of folk, country and even jazzier elements with Bluegrass. More of the great playing and singing that has become a band trademark is combined with another eclectic selection of material: it's the sort of combination that prompted Frank Overstreet, SPBGMA's Bluegrass Music News, to comment, "...they are very innovative. You can describe their music as traditional or progressive. I prefer to call it great music."

Larry Stephenson — On Fire — Hard to imagine how a frequent guest on the Grand Ole Opry and a

member of the Virginia Country Music Hall Of Fame could add to his own legacy... but here, Larry once again demonstrates why he's often called one of the best tenor singers in bluegrass history.

For more information about Pinecastle Records or to obtain a catalog, write to: Pinecastle Records, 5108 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32809. For much more information and to order product online, visit their website at: http://pinecastle.com

News From Rebel Records

The "Nashville Scene," Nashville, TN's weekly newspaper which features issues, arts and events around town, recently named its Top 10 Country Albums for the first half of 1998, and two Rebel releases were included. Ralph Stanley's 2-CD set "Clinch Mountain Country," which features duets with artists ranging from Bob Dylan and Patty Loveless. This album has already sold more than any album in the history of Rebel Records.

Blue Highway's "Midnight Storm," the groups third album for Rebel. The album was released in January of this year, and sales continue to be strong for this critically praised piece. Rankings such as these reflect the growing appreciation for traditional forms of music in the music industry and among fans.

The Country Gentleman Box Set is finally ready. The Four CD set features the early recordings form 1962-1971. With a 24 page book written by bluegrass historian Gary Reid, the set contains 110 songs taken form their first seven albums with 8 previously unreleased bonus tracks.

Richard Bennett's new album A Long Lonesome Time, to be released September 29th, includes guest artist Bobby Hicks, Jimmy Gaudreau, Ronnie McCoury and Scott Vestal.

To receive a catalog of Rebel Records, call 540-343-5476; E-mail rebel@rev.net; or visit their website at: <www.rebelrecords.com>

Rounder Records announces October releases

James King, Bed by the Window (Rounder 0425) — "In an age where much bluegrass and country music is a product of stacked harmonies and polite, well-mannered vocals, James King is a rarity: an honest-to-God mountain soul singer who likes it loud and hard, who's not afraid of emotion and sentiment. James King has carried his heart songs to festivals all over the country, and won his share of rave reviews and industry awards.



Here he continues to ply his hardcore bluegrass style to a rich and surprising collection of songs, accompanied by his crack road band. Like generations of Virginia singers before him, he does best what great singers have always done: he finds a good song, and he tells a good story. Even Carter Stanley could not have asked for more." — Charles Wolfe, from his liner notes

Tony Trischka, The Early Years (Rounder 11578) — The Early Years contains banjo virtuoso Tony Trischka's first two Rounder albums, Bluegrass Light and Heartlands, in their entirety. "In the ongoing story of American roots music, Tony Trischka's first two Rounder recordings, Bluegrass Light (1973) and Heartlands (1975), rank among the most important and pivotal works of the late twentieth century."—Bill Fyans

Hazel Dickens, Carol Elizabeth Jones, Ginny Hawker, Heart of a Singer, (Rounder 0443) - "I've listened to Hazel Dickens and felt that my feet were leaving the ground. That exhilarating feeling of lift and flying seems to come from her soaring spirit. Other times she's nearly scared me. Ginny Hawker has moved me to tears with the deep feeling of her singing and her skill in matching word to tonal truth. And Carol Elizabeth Jones, one of our few securely rooted young singer /songwriters, arouses my warm admiration with her beautifully detailed, spacious and flowing

These three daughters of Appalachia, three generations of country/bluegrass / old time mountain singers, each with their own distinct and highly developed singing style have made a hardcore mountain vocal album for the turn of the century, one whose roots go well into the last. Singing a rare and unusual repertoire, accompanied by a superb band, Hazel's dynamic and unfettered bursts of brilliance, Ginny's emotional steady rocking intensity and CE's stately and supple artistry combine in duets and trios to create a sound that is by turns lush, stark, hard-edged and tender." -Jody Stecher

Hazel Dickens, Hard Hitting Songs for Hard Hit People, (Rounder 0126) — Now available on CD! "Hazel Dickens has chosen to put herself and her music to work for the benefit of people faced with struggle. The vocal styles she uses, strident, vigorous and harsh, or wistful, lonesome and melancholy, combining elements of Southern church singing, country

music and bluegrass, are those of a country woman who identifies with the most basic aesthetic and ethical values of her people. Generations who follow us and who have forgotten the top ten tunes on today's pop and country music charts will know and respect Hazel's music because hers is art of

timeless and enduring values." — Ralph Rinzler, from his liner notes

Bob Holt, Got a Little Home to Go To, (Rounder 0432) — Wind your way through the rambling foothills of Douglas County, Missouri and you'll stumble across homegrown square dance music of the most piquantly authentic character. In this live recording, the celebrated fiddler Bob Holt leads his dancers through their fiery paces. Interspersed with the dance sets are frisky and melancholy old tunes that display the emotional range of true Ozark fiddling.

For further information on Rounder releases or a catalog, write to: Rounder Records, One Camp Street, Cambridge, MA 02140, or visit their website at: < www.rounder.com>

Gospel Groups sought by Texas musician

Editor's note: I received the following e-mail message from Bobby Miller, a Bluegrass Gospel musician in Ft. Worth, Texas. Gospel musicians who wish to contact Mr. Miller are encouraged to do so, his address is at the end of his message. Suzanne

Several months ago I started a correspondance ministry with other bluegrass gospel groups. I play for "Prairie Wind". We are the only all bluegrass group in the Dallas, Ft. Worth, Texas area.

With the other groups we are sharing experiences etc.since we all have the same thing in common. I have several churches in our area that have radio programs and they are playing our tapes.

If any members of your association have gospel songs on tape or CD, tell them that I can get them some airplay. Also if any of your groups travel in our area I can get them a 30 minute slot on a live TV program in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. It also airs in Las Vegas, Albuquerque, and Alaska.

I have been on the internet about six weeks and never have I seen so much Bluegrass, whew! I love the e-mail my postal bill was getting pretty high.

Bobby Miller 3158 Schadt, Ft.Worth, Texas 76106

Banjo prejudice? BGrass-L posting alert

Editor's note: The following message was received via e-mail from Lavonne Bickle of Bluegrass Northwest. It was originally posted by Bruce Campbell on BGrass-L, the on-line Bluegrass discussion group. Suzanne

Here's a quote from an autoharpist about how SONY views banjo music:

Apparently the autoharp (Third Eye Blind) and the mandolin (Joan Osborne) are now MORE COMMER-CIAL than the banjo (Sophie B. Hawkins). Someone wrote to the autoharp list and said the BANJO-L and BGRASS-L lists are being asked to join this protest: If you go to the following site you will see this text: < http://www.vudu.com/Sophie/protest/index.html >

"Sophie B. Hawkins needs the help of her fans all over the world. Her third album has not yet been released although it has been finished for over a year now. Sony Music didn't want her to put the album out because of the use of a banjo on a song called "Lose Your Way".

"The company feels that the banjo should be replaced with guitar to make it more "commercial." This takes the matter far beyond Sophie. It effects (sic) musicians worldwide. Record companies like Sony Music are trying to make artists more commercial in order to bring in money from the majority of people who listen to the mainstream types of music."

However, those who enjoy music from songwriters such as Ms. Hawkins don't benefit at all from these decisions, and neither do the artists who are limited to certain guidelines or restrictions regarding content. The protest that follows, which includes not just Sophie fans but those who believe in Freedom of Music, has been nicknamed Project: Cracker.

Please, help Sophie by e-mailing letters to Sony Music to sophiebhawkins@flagg.net. These e-mails will be printed and delivered to Sophie, who requested our help. She will deliver them to Sony's "big guys" in person. Our protest could help put Sophie's new album on the shelves."



J.D's Bluegrass Kitchen

Howdy, Howdy, Howdy!

Here it is fall again. Today is a beautiful Indian Summer day here in the mountains of Calaveras County, and I guess I'm the luckiest person in the world to live where I do. Mother nature has started painting the leaves a variety of beautiful colors again, and the nights are chilly. The days have been sunny and warm here on Bluegrass Acres. Country living at its best!

When the weather is nice like this, I write my column outside under the tall pines. Its so much nicer than being inside where you can't hear the breeze whispering through the pine trees, or hear a gray squirrel scold you because he wants the acorns next to where you're sitting.

I have worked and lived outside most of my life and I've always felt that the sky was my roof. I guess I have my Cherokee ancestors to thank for that.

This month we celebrate a holiday that is unique to the American way of life, Thanksgiving. Its my favorite holiday of the year. Not only because of the food and the good times, but mainly because that's one of the few times that the family gets together to share each other's company and it always brings back fond memories of Thanksgivings past. (My mom's pies are probably my favorite memories!)

For those of you folks that aren't planning a big Thanksgiving dinner, I've got the perfect recipe this month that is absolutely heavenly and makes a nice meal for four. If you don't want to fix a turkey or ham and would like something different, then this is for you. It's fairly simple and easy to fix, but its one of the fanciest ways I've found to fix chicken.

The main ingredient is Orange Muscat Wine and the brand I use comes from the Kautz Ironstone Winery in Murphys, California. (In fact, this recipe was on the label of the bottle.)

so for a different Thanksgiving dinner this year, whip up a big mess of:

Orange Muscat Chicken

1 Chicken, quartered and floured 1 cup olive oil 1 head garlic, separated

1 pound button mushrooms

1 bottle Kautz, Orange Muscat Wine Salt and pepper to taste Chopped parsley for garnish

In a heavy frying pan, sauté the Mushrooms and garlic in the olive oil; remove from pan. Add chicken and brown evenly; remove chicken. Add the wine and bring to a slow boil. Return the chicken, mushrooms and garlic to the pan. Cover and cook on low heat until the chicken juices run clear, (about one

hour). Sprinkle with parsley before serving.

Now you talk about a fancy meal! Of course when you talk about a Thanksgiving dinner you've always got to include dressing. About three or four days before Thanksgiving, or any special dinner that we were gonna have, my mom would bake up three or four big black cast iron skillets full of corn bread. She'd let it sit out and get stale so when she made it into dressing it would have the correct texture and not be a gummy mess. Mom used to say, it gives it the "right body". As usual, momma was right, and here's her recipe

Corn Bread Dressing

4 cups stale, crumbled corn bread 2 cups cubed stale bread 2 cups celery, chopped 1 medium onion, diced 2 eggs, beaten 1/4 lb. Butter 1 tsp. Sage 4 cups chicken stock or broth Salt and pepper to taste

Place breads in a big bowl and mix well. Bring stock to a boil and cook celery and onion for 10 minutes, or until tender. Mix everything together with breads. Turn into a greased casserole dish and bake at 3590° F for 1 1/2 hours, (or until browned).

This is what corn bread dressing is all about! When you lay into a big plateful of this, smothered in Giblet gravy, there's not much that is any better! - Except, of course, the pie for dessert!

That covers the folks that don't have to cook up a big dinner, but what about you folks that are gonna have a big turkey carcass left over? Well, don't fret, because I've got you covered too. Carve off the meat you want to save for sandwiches or whatever, and make up a big pot of leftover turkey soup! Momma used to make up a big pot of this the next day for supper and then freeze the rest in freezer bags to use later when we weren't tired of eating turkey. A big, hot bowl of this soup always hits the spot on a cold fall day.

Left Over Turkey Soup

Turkey carcass 16 cups water 1 large onion, cut up 6 carrots, cut up 2 potatoes, cut up 1 bunch celery, cut up 1 bunch parsley, chopped 2 TBS. Chicken Base (Bouillon) 5 whole Allspice 2 TBS. poultry seasoning Salt and pepper to taste 1/4 to 1/2 lb. Egg noodles In a large pot with lid, combine

water with the chicken base, allspice,

poultry seasoning, salt and pepper. Mix well and add the turkey. Bring to a boil, reduce to slow simmer for 2 hours, covered. Remove carcass. pick the meat from the bones and return the meat to the broth. Add vegetables and cook over mediumhigh heat for 25 minutes. Add noodles, cook at a boil for 10-15

minutes, or until the noodles are

Now there's how to get rid of a turkey carcass with style. I roasted up a big turkey breast for supper about two weeks ago in my meat cooker over a Manzanita fire and then the next day made up a big pot (Continued on Page 16)

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Bluegrass Breakdown, November, 1990 - rage 15

STUDIO INSIDER

More on Compressors in Bluegrass Recording

by Joe Weed

Welcome to November! I hope you've survived Halloween with all your pumpkin- carving fingers intact, and your home and property unscathed by goblins, spirits and costumed pranksters.

The last several columns have focused on how to use compressors in recording bluegrass. If you need to review the basics about compressors or dynamic range, or any of the associated vocabulary, just check out the last two months' columns. Contact me if you can't find them, and I'll be happy to fill you in. (E-mail me at joe@highland publishing.com)

Last month's column dealt with "threshold," the first of several adjustable parameters on a compressor. "Threshold" is the volume level at which you want a compressor to start compressing (or limiting) the dynamic range of a recording. Another significant parameter is "Ratio" works like this: when you set the ratio at 4 to 1, then for every 4 dB of gain that occurs above the threshold, the compressor will let out only 1 dB of gain. Its circuitry tells it how to "bring down the volume" quickly and smartly as the recorded signal increases above the threshold. The ratio you have set tells it how much to bring down that volume. If you set the ratio at 8 to 1 (often written on the front panel as 8:1), then for every 8 dB of gain that the recorded signal has above the threshold, the compressor will let out only 1 dB of gain. That means it is "squashing" the dynamic range of the signal. Doing this can radically alter the sound of

J.D.'s Kitchen

absolutely murdered it!

(Continued from Page 15)

of this soup. Wow! I didn't get a

chance to freeze any of it for later

because me and my cowboy son

have a wonderful Thanksgiving holi-

day with your family and friends. I

know come Thanksgiving morning

about daylight I'm stoking up my

huge meat cooker with Manzanita

and when the fire is just right, I'm

putting on two or three big turkeys

to smoke and cook to perfection.

You haven't lived until you've eaten

Manzanita smoked turkey! I only

wish I could have you all here to

share it with me. If I ever win the

Lotto, we'll do it!

Well folks, I hope that you all

many recorded instruments, especially plucked instruments. Many compressors have a knob

Many compressors have a knob that allows you to set any ratio you want, from no compression (a ratio of 1:1) to infinite compression (∞:1). Remember that "ratio" works in tandem with "threshold" to determine how much a signal gets compressed. "Threshold" tells the unit at what level to begin operating, and "ratio" tells it how severely to limit the signal.

OK, so how about compressing that Martin D-28?

What can you do if you are mixing a bluegrass album and the rhythm guitar sounds too boomy? Compression may help to control the boominess, while allowing the instrument to fit into the mix without conflicting with the frequency range of the upright bass or baritone vocals. My first choice in fixing a boominess problem would probably be to work with the equalization (i.e. tone controls). If that doesn't solve the problem, or if the guitar player is at the mixing session and is adamant about not changing the instrument's tone, then I reach for the compressor.

Which plug goes where?

The way to hook up a compressor so that it can massage the guitar track is to "patch" it into just the guitar channel. Most mixing consoles have "insert" jacks that allow you to insert a device into any channel's signal path without affecting any other channel.

Start by soloing the guitar track. That means turn off the other channels for a bit while you work on just the guitar sound. Before you begin to work with the compressor, place it in bypass mode and listen to the guitar track. This way you can make sure that the compressor is patched in correctly and not affecting the sound in a negative way. Before you remove the track from bypass mode, raise the threshold so high that the guitar sound won't cause it to start compressing. Set the ratio to a light amount of compression, say 4:1. Leave any other controls at default settings, or if they don't have defaults, then at the middle of their ranges. Now push the "bypass" switch, so that the compressor leaves bypass mode and starts

Listen carefully to the guitar. As it plays, experiment to see how compression changes the sound of the instrument. Later I'll discuss the settings that may be optimal for your usage in bluegrass, but for now, get to know how this tool works and how it affects the sound of the guitar. Gradually lower the threshold control until the guitar track begins causing the compressor to work. Next, lower it a little more, so that the guitar track is almost always causing compression to happen. How has the sound of

the guitar changed? Does it still sound like the same instrument? Probably not! It begins to sound like an AM radio broadcast—recognizable as a generic guitar, not the priceless vintage Martin D-28 in your studio.

Without changing the threshold setting, increase the ratio from 4:1 to 8:1 and then 16:1 or more. Notice how the guitar becomes even more "squashed." Remember, there is a relationship between the threshold (at which compression, or gain reduction) begins and the ratio (which determines how severely the unit will reduce the level it is working on). Ideally, when mixing a bluegrass guitar, set the threshold only as low as you need to treat the peaks (loud parts) that are causing problems. Next, vary the compression ratio, trying to use the minimum amount that reduces the peaks without squashing them more than necessary. Let your ears be your guide here, rather than the numbers on the knobs of the compressor. The quality of the recording you are mixing will determine how much compression you need to apply. Shift back and forth between compressed sound and non-compressed sound by using the unit's bypass switch. When you like the sound you're getting, take the guitar track out of solo mode and listen to it mixed in with the rest of the band. Make any more adjustments as you listen to the complete mix,

and remember to bypass the unit periodically to ascertain just what it's doing to the guitar sound.

Do I use this thing when recording, or when I'm mixing?

I prefer not to use any compression at all on bluegrass instruments when tracking them (i.e. recording them). I like to have pure, unprocessed instrument sounds on tape whenever possible. It's virtually impossible to remove processing from tracks once it's been applied. Record your tracks cleanly, and deal with compression when you're mixing, if it's needed. The main exception to this is usually vocals, and I'll cover using compression on vocals in future columns.

Next month I'll explain the use of other parameters of compressors. And later, I'll discuss using compressors on other instruments.

In the mean time, Happy Thanksgiving!

Joe Weed records acoustic music at bis Highland Studio in Los Gatos, California. He bas released five albums of bis own, produced many projects for independent labels, and done sound tracks for film, TV and museums. You can reach Joe by calling (408) 353-3353, or by email, at joe@bighland publishing.com.

Sacramento Area Bluegrass News

by Bob Thomas Sacramento Area Activities VP Mountain Fiddlers

The Mountain Fiddlers meet the first Sunday of every month at the Nevada County Library community room. 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. is slow jam and beginners session; 2:00 -3:00 (or so) Workshop; 3:00 - ? Open jam. The November 1, 1998 workshop will be on bluegrass fiddling. Rick Grant and members of Mountain Laurel will demonstrate bluegrass fiddling, and how it fits into the context of a bluegrass band. Should be fun. The Mountain Fiddlers is dedicated to the learning and playing of all types of fiddle music and is open to all acoustic instrumentalists. Contact Rita Behr, (530)274-2361 or Rudy Darling (530)272-6504 for information or to receive the newsletter. They have a website at < http:// www.jps.net/cdabis/mth-fiddlers> giving information, newsletters, tunes (visual and audio), map to the library, links, upcoming fiddle events, etc.

Dan Crary Sacramento Workshop Was Packed

On September 24, 1998, The Fifth String Music Store hosted California super-picker and recording artist, Dan Crary, for an evening of instruction and performing to a very packed house. Dan covered many subjects in his two hours. He holds his pick in an unconventional way, but does amazing things. He advised finding a comfortable position that works for you and staying with it

with it.

Regarding practice, he advised setting reachable goals, perhaps what can be done in 30 minutes and do that. Then set the next reachable goal. Regarding electronics, Dan takes the view that if you play into a microphone, you ARE "plugged in." He recommends the "dual" systems by Baggs, Highlander, or Fishman. He was experimenting that night with a sound hole pickup and small external mic mounted on the front of the soundboard. Sounded good. Following installation he recommends

spending considerable time finetuning the set-up so as to get the sound you really want.

As he asked and answered questions that evening, he used the song John Henry to illustrate several points and advised beginners how to put several licks together to improvise solos. He made another good point about supporting our local acoustic instrument retailer. He knows that mail order folks can sell at sizeable discounts. But I know from personal experience, you can get a reasonable discount AND great service from the local Collings, Martin, Taylor retailer, Fifth String. All in all it was a delightful evening of education and entertainment.

Mountain Laurel Gets PBS TV Special

Local favorites, Mountain Laurel has been approached by Roseville Cable Television to perform a live show on Roseville Public Access Channel 8, on Friday, November13, from 7-8 p.m. Hint-you folks with Roseville Cable might want to invite some bluegrass friends over to watch the show, then call the station and ask for more bluegrass programs.

Local Jams Wednesdays

Every Wednesday from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Country Table Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane, Orangevale. The Country Table Restaurant will host a bluegrass jam. The planned activities havenit worked out so we're gonna just jam on Wednesdays.

Thursdays

The Fifth String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento, hosts a bluegrass jam every Thursday from 7-11 p.m. They are now authorized dealers for Martin, Taylor and Collings guitars. Call 916-442-8282 for more information.

Rose. May God grant you all peace and health.

Yer friend,

J.D. Phynes

Momma, we'll miss you and

Page 16 - Bluegrass Breakdown, November, 1998



24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

June 17, 18, 19 & 20, 1999

At the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT TICKETS NOW ON SALE

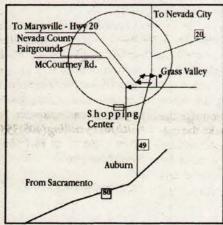
Featuring...

Jim and Jesse & The Virginia Boys

• The Osborne Brothers • IIIrd Tyme Out • Mac Wiseman •

• The Sand Mountain Boys • Country Current •

PLUS -- 10 More Bands (TBA), Cloggers, Workshops, Children's Program, Camping, Jamming and more!



Come and join us in our 24th Annual Fathers' Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival June 17-20, 1999 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California. Four days of family fun, jamming, workshops, Children's Programs, and the best in Bluegrass and Old Time Music on stage under the beautiful pine trees in Grass Valley.

Things You Should Know

Absolutely NO PETS allowed on the festival grounds.

• Camping is in the rough on the festival site beginning Monday, June 14 through Wednesday, June 16 for a fee of \$15 per unit per night (lots of grass and big pine trees), limited hookups available, on a first-come, first-served basis.

· Camping during the festival is included in 3 and 4 day tickets.

• No alcohol is sold on the festival grounds. • Food and soft drink concessions on site.

·Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

• Festival is held rain or shine -- ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS

~ Early Bird Ticket Order Form ~

Early Bird Ticket Prices and Senior Citizen (Age 65 and over) Discounts are offered to CBA Members only. Members are entitled to purchase 1 discount ticket for a single membership or 2 discount tickets for a Couple Membership. Deadline for Early Bird Discount tickets is February 28, 1999. No Discounts available at the gate.

Early Bird Tickets (11/1/98 - 2/28/99) CBA Members Only	
4-Day	\$55
4-Day Senior (65 & over)	
4-Day Teen (13-18)	
3-Day(Th-F-Sat)	\$45
3-Day (F-Sat-Sun)	\$40
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Th-F-Sat)	\$25
3-Day Teen (13-18 (F-Sat-Sun)	. \$45
Non-Mambon Walnut Driven	
Non-Member Ticket Prices	005
4-Day	\$05
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$40
3-Day (Th-F-Sat)	\$55
3-Day (F-Sat-Sun)	\$50
3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) (13-18)	\$35
3-Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) (13-18)	\$35
Single Day Tickets	
No discounts available	
Thursday	\$20
Friday	\$20
Catuadar	\$25
Saturday	
Sunday	\$15
Children 12 & Under FREE	

Please send me the following tickets to the CBA's	s 24th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival:
CBA Member Early Bird Tickets 4-Day Adult @ \$55 4-Day Senior @\$45 4-Day Teen @\$30 3-Day Adult (Th-F-Sat) @\$45 3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @\$40 3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) @\$25 3-Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) @\$25	Non-Member Tickets
Address City State Zip Phone	Mail ticket order form, a SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE, and check or money order payable to the California Bluegrass Association (CBA) to: CBA Festival Advance Tickets David Runge 215 Grant Avenue Petaluma, CA 94952 For further information about tickets, call: (707) 762-8735

RECORDING REVIEWS

Crossing Paths Keystone Crossing

Carltone Music P.O. Box 1264 Sausalito, CA 94966

By Michael Hall

Crossing Paths is the first recording by Keystone Crossing, a Marin County duo that has revived the "brother duet" as a modern musical form. There is both a musical and personal story behind the recording.

The musical story is rural America's romance with the duet during the early to middle part of this century. In a simpler time, folks went for a simpler music. The Carter Family act offered mostly female duets. George Jones and Tammy Wynette did couple duets. But, the brother duet was the dominant form. Two male singers, often brothers, whose voices blended well would sing heartfelt duets, often sad. These duets made good music that also hit some strong marketing angles: proper family values, acceptance by male fans, and, of course, appeal to female fans. Bill Monroe's first commercially-successful band was the pre-bluegrass Monroe Brothers, staged with his brother Charlie around the Carolinas.

The personal story is the March 1995 chance meeting of two "sons" of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania (the "Keystone State"), at the venerable Sweetwater in Mill Valley. Larry Carlin and Claudia Hampe had even attended the same grade school (she left in the spring of 1959; he enrolled that fall). The two hit it off romantically and musically. They will return to the Sweetwater this month for their big record release party.

Crossing Paths features songs from the Delmore, Louvin, and Everly Brothers, as well as material picked up from Lynn Morris, Emmylou Harris, and Hazel Dickens. The arrangements are simple duets with dual guitar rhythms. The CD takes the listener back to a slower era, when all music was acoustic music, when love gone bad did not simply mean the quick placement of an internet personal ad, and when lovers could talk to each other at a show without shouting over screaming guitars.

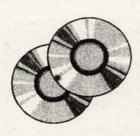
Modern audiences are used to "brother" duet tunes appearing on the set lists of acts like Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum, Sidesaddle & Co., and Emmylou Harris & Graham Parsons. The key to this type of music is the blend achieved by the voices of the performers. On this album, the couple's voice blend is outstanding and true to the genre.

The album is built around the slow, sad songs of the Delmores ("The Weary Lonesome Blues," "Midnight Train"), the Louvins ("My Baby's Gone,""The Angels Rejoiced Last Night"), and some material from Utah Phillips ("Green Rolling Hills"), Bob McDill ("We Believe In Happy Endings"), and the Everly Brothers ("So Sad To Watch Good Love Go Bad"). Along the way, some uplifting and even mildly amusing tunes balance the load, notably the Louvin's "The Great Atomic Power" and the gospel "Just Rehearsing," Lynn Morris' get-on-with-it-now-you-are-gone "What Was I Supposed To Do," and the traditional tune When You and I Were Young Maggie." Listeners who know the Everly Brothers through their rockin' hits like "Wake Up Little Suzie" will find a whole new world of the duo's material on this CD,

To You."

The rich literature of the brother duets deserves attention from contemporary artists as interest continues to grow in acoustic music in general and in bluegrass-related acoustic music in particular. Keystone Crossing has done the trick in its first recorded outing. In live performance, the duo offers an even wider exploration of the genre. I hope they will return to the studio to lay down more tracks as soon as possible.

including the beautiful "Devoted



18 Old-Time Country Favorites Curly Fox

Rural Rhythm Classics RHY-182 Box 660040, Dept. D Arcadia, CA 91066-0040

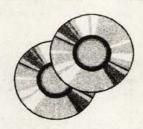
Songs: Long Lost John, Sittin' On Top Of The World, Robert E. Lee, Maiden's Prayer, Spanish Two Step, Johnson's Old Gray Mule, Bird In A Gilded Cage, Listen To The Mocking Bird, Chinese Breakdown, History In A Few Words, K.C. Railroad Blues, Fox Chase, Jack Of Diamonds, Curly's Breakdown, Floatin' Down To Cotton Town, Barclay Blues, Mountain Blues, Over The Waves.

Personnel: Curly Fox - fiddle, vocals; no other information available as to what other musicians are performing on this CD. By Ken Reynolds

Rural Rhythm Records had released a re-issue CD of old time fiddler Curly Fox. I will tell you right off, this is not bluegrass, it is old time country. You are going to hear the harmonica, Jews harp, piano, steel guitar, electric guitar and electric bass, along with the fiddle on this project. Mr. Fox also does some vocals on this CD. The vocal tunes include "Sittin' On Top Of The World", "Johnson's Old Gray Mule", "Bird In A Gilded Cage" "History In A Few Words", "Jack Of Diamonds", "Floatin' Down To Cotton Town", and "Mountain Dew". While Mr. Fox's voice is not great, I've heard worse.

Mr. Fox began his career at radio station WSB, Atlanta, Georgia in 1932. During his career he has performed with the likes of Fibber McGee and Mollie, Lum and Abner, and the Boswell Sisters, and has performed at the world famous Carnegie Hall, Constitution Hall, and the Grand Ole Opry. The liner notes say of Mr. Fox, "Curly plays any instrument that has strings plus some that don't—harmonica, Jews harp, musical saw, etc."

Even though this CD didn't get even close to bluegrass, I rather enjoyed it. If you are into country music played the way it was played back in the 1930s to the early 1950s, this one is for you.



Blood, Sweat & Tears Little Creek

Interworks Music Group FOF-2101-2 1017 17th Avenue South, Suite 2 Nashville, TN 37212

Songs: Dad's Old Mandolin, River Of Darkness, Blood, Sweat & Tears, Crossfire, Watch Over Me, Messing With My Mind, Cherokee Run, Everything Has Changed, Love Please Come Back, I'm Still Loving You, Little Creek, It Could Have Been Me.

Personnel: John Harrell Jr. - banjo & backing vocals; John Harrell Sr. guitar, lead vocals; Frank Harrison - mandolin; Zackery McLamb - bass

By Ken Reynolds

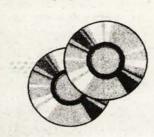
"Blood, Sweat and Tears" is the latest release by a group called Little Creek on the Innerworks Records International label. The liner notes give very little information on this group, but as near as I can tell, based on the information provided, I assume they are out of North Carolina.

The band is headed by the father and son team of John "Papa John" Harrell Sr. and John "Hot Rod" Harrell Jr. The material on this CD primarily consists of original songs written by John Sr. and John Jr. The senior Harrell wrote the title cut "Blood, Sweat and Tears" as well as "Watch Over Me", Messing With My Mind", "Everything Has Changed", "Love Please Come Back", and "It Could Have Been Me". John Jr. wrote all three of the instrumental tunes that appear on this project: ("Crossfire", 'Cherokee Run" and "Little Creek").

The instrumental work on this album is fairly solid. John Jr. picks a pretty mean banjo and Papa John is no slouch when it come to flatpicking the guitar. The mandolin picking is clean and tasteful.

Papa John does all of the lead vocal work. His voice has that southern flavor to it. John Jr. sings the tenor vocals and blends well with his dad.

The weak point on this album, in my opinion, is the mix. On the instrumentals, the banjo lead tends to get covered up. This was especially noticeable on the tune "Cherokee Run", where the mandolin chops were louder than the banjo, playing the lead. Other than this, I found "Blood, Sweat and Tears" to be a solid project.



A Child Of God Patent Pending

Copper Creek Records CCCD 0158 P.O. Box 3161 Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: Make Him A Soldier, He Is Risen, Stormy Waters, Job, Anchored In Love Divine, Prayer Is The Key To Heaven, Little Country Preacher, Barabbas, Prince Of My Peace, Thy Burdens Are Greater Than Mine, Jesus Gonna Make Up My Dying Bed, Enough For Me, A Mother's Parting Words To Her Daughter.

Personnel: Eldred Hill - mandolin, lead, harmony vocals; Rusty Williams - rhythm and lead guitar, harmony vocals; Jim Steptoe - banjo, harmony vocals; Teri Chism - bass, lead and harmony vocals; Wayne Lanham - fiddle, mandolin, harmony vocals; Ed Barney - lead guitar, harmony vocals.

By Ken Reynolds

"A Child Of God" is an all gospel album by a West Virginia based group called Patent Pending on the Copper Creek label.

This talented group was formed in the fall of 1979 by Eldred Hill, Jim Steptoe and Rusty Williams. They later picked up Teri Chism, Wayne Lanham and Ed Barney to form the current configuration of the group.

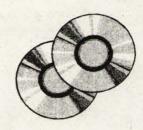
This is the first recording I've

This is the first recording I've heard of this band, and I was very impressed with their vocal harmonies which are amply demonstrated on the songs "Job" and "Prince Of My Peace". There are a lot of great gospel tunes on this project, such as the classic "Thy Burdens Are Greater Than Mine" written by Pee Wee King and Redd Stewart, "Make Him A Soldier" by the Louvin Brothers, the Jimmy Martin/Paul M. Williams composition "Stormy Waters", and Don Reno's "Little Country Preacher".

The group's mandolin player, Eldred Hill wrote two of the songs: "He Is Risen" and "Barabbas".

This if a fine group of musicians. Their instrumental work on this album is solid and clean and has a lot of drive. In short, there is some mighty fine picking here. But their strong point, in my opinion, is their pristine vocal harmonies.

If you enjoy good bluegrass gospel music as I do, you'll want to add this recording to your collection. It's one of the best gospel CDs that I have listened to recently.



20 Bluegrass Favorites, Vol. II Red Smiley & The Bluegrass Cut-Ups

Rural Rhythm Classics RHY-182 Box 660040, Dept. D Arcadia, CA 91066-0040

Songs: Ain't Nobody Gonna Miss Me When I'm Gone, It's Raining Here This Morning, The Pale Horse And His Rider, Plant Some Flowers By My Grave, Prisoner's Dream, Take Me In The Lifeboat, Budded On Earth To Bloom In Heaven, I'll Be No Stranger There, The Man Of Galilee, A Beautiful Life, Little Darling Pal Of Mine, Banks Of The Obio, Drifting Too

RECORDING REVIEWS

Far From The Shore, I'm Just Here To Get My Baby Out Of Jail, Baby Girl, Katy Hill, Little Glass Of Wine, Prosperity Special, Living The Right Life Now, Thirty Pieces Of Silver.

Personnel: Red Smiley-guitar, vocals; Tater Tate - fiddle; Billy Edwards - banjo; John Palmer bass; Gene Burris (a.k.a. Gene Burows) - mandolin, guitar.

By Ken Reynolds

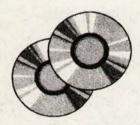
I just got this CD featuring the legendary Red Smiley on the Rural Rhythm Records label. This project is a re-release of recordings done in 1967. It features Red's band the Bluegrass Cut-Ups which he formed after splitting with Don Reno.

Red and Don were the dynamic duo of bluegrass from 1951 to 1964. Red's career was coming to a close in 1969 when he left the band to retire from music. But retirement didn't suit him very well so he contacted his old friend Don Reno, who at the time had partnered with Bill Harrell, and asked if he could join them when his health permitted. They of course said yes, and Don stated in his autobiography, "The last two years and five months that Red worked with me and Harrell were the happiest years we spent together".

The last song that Red and Don recorded together was "Letter Edged In Black". This was in May of 1971. Red Smiley died January 2, 1972.

This CD features some of the great songs of bluegrass music, performed by true masters of the genre. Some of my favorite song on this projectare "The Pale Horse And His Rider", "Plant Some Flowers By My Grave", Prisoners' Dream" and "I'll Be No Stranger There". But to be honest, in my opinion, there wasn't a bad cut on this CD.

If you are a fan of the old time traditional bluegrass music, you'll want to get this one. It is truly a collector's item.



Clinch Mountain Country Ralph Stanley & Friends

Rebel Records CD 1716 P.O. Box 3057 Roanoke, VA 32802 Songs: DISC ONE-How Mountain Gals Can Love (with Hal Ketchum), Shouting On The Hills Of Glory (with Ricky Skaggs), Pretty Polly (with Patty Loveless), The Window Up Above (with George Jones), I Just Got Wise (with Dwight Yokam), If That's The Way You Feel (with Vince Gill & Patty Loveless), Nobody's Love Is Like Mine (with Ricky Skaggs), Memories Of Mother (with Claire Lynch), The Lonesome River (with Bob Dylan), Old Love

Letters (with Laurie Lewis), Sbe's More To Be Pitied (with Marty Stuart), When I Wake Up To Sleep No More (with Judy & David Marshall), Another Night (with Joe Diffe), Gold Watch And Chain (with Gillian Welch), Thy Burdens Are Greater Than Mine (with Ralph Stanley II), I'll Take The Blame (with Rhonda Vincent), How Can We Thank Him For What He Has Done (with Diamond Rio), I've Just Seen The Rock Of Ages (with Jeff & Marty

Raybon)

DISC TWO - Pig In A Pen (with Doug Phelps), I Only Exist (with John Anderson), A Lonesome Night (with Vince Gill & Patty Loveless), Pretty Little Miss In The Garden (with Alison Krauss), The Darkest Hour Is Just Before Dawn (with Dwight Yokam), Stone Walls And Steel Bars (with Junior Brown), Beautiful Star Of Betblebem (with Connie Smith), Let Me Love You

One More Time (with Tim O'Brien), The White Dove (with Porter Wagoner), Will You Ever Miss Me At All (with Joe & Sonya Isaacs), Lonesome Banjo Man (with Ralph Stanley II), Are You Afraid To Die (with Sonya & Becky Isaacs), Way Down Deep (with Vern Gosdin), If I Lose (with Jim Lauderdale), I'm Going That Way (with The Whites), Gathering Flowers For The Master's Bouquet

(Continued on Page 20)



1999 Bluegrass Calendar \$11.95

Copper Creek is proud to make available the 1999 Bluegrass Calendar. With production values of the highest quality, this year's calendar offers an impressive array of full-color photos of the following artists: Sam Bush (and New Grass Revival), Dan Crary, Jerry Douglas, Front Range, Carl Jackson, Kathy Kallick, Laurel Canyon Ramblers, Doyle Lawson, Lonesome River Band, Nashville Bluegrass Band, Tim O'Brien (with Hot Rize, Red Knuckles and Mollie O'Brien), Peter Rowan, Seldom Scene, John Starling and Doc Watson.

The 1999 Bluegrass Calendar celebrates the wonderful music which has emanated from North Carolina-based Sugar Hill Records for the past twenty years. The creation of contemporary music from traditional roots sources has been the major focus of the label.

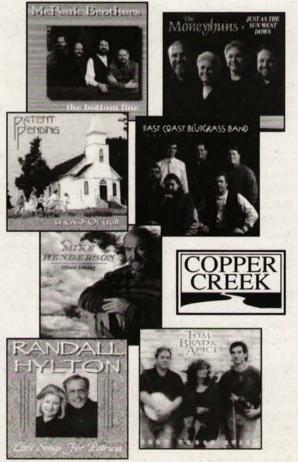
Sugar Hill has been so successful in fostering this phenomenon that the music on the label is often referred to as the "Sugar Hill sound." Because of an unfailing commitment to quality, from its artist roster to recording to packaging, Sugar Hill is regarded as one of most respected labels around. The label is home to eight Grammies and 28 Grammy finalists, as well as numerous IBMA and SPBGMA awards.

In addition to the splendid photography, the 1999 Bluegrass Calendar offers the birthdays of literally hundreds of bluegrass performers and personalities. The dates of important milestones in bluegrass history are also included.

- "...splendid 28-page bluegrass music calendar. Color photos of 12 top bluegrass acts past and present and hundreds of significant historical dates" -- Edward Morris, Billboard Magazine
- ▶ "By far the nicest we've ever seen devoted to "our" kind of music. The twelve color reproductions are superb and striking nice enough to frame when [the year] is over...Lots of interesting data included as well (births, deaths, etc).

 One of the most popular items we have right now...A fine piece, and a great Christmas gift!" -- County Sales Newsletter
- ▶ "...exudes class in every way." -- International Bluegrass, International Bluegrass Music Association Newsletter

New And Recent Releases From Copper Creek



CC-0158 PATENT PENDING "A Child Of God" Outstanding bluegrass gospel project by this veteran West Virginia band. Material comes from a variety of sources including blues, old-time and bluegrass but all have the authoritative Patent Pending stamp. Top-notch project. CD - \$13.00 / Cass - \$8.00

CC-0159 McPEAK BROTHERS "The Bottom Line" Virginia made bluegrass at its best. The fantastic hallmark trios of the McPeak Brothers are much in evidence here, on a super collection that the group rates as their best project in twenty years. Many fine original songs. CD - \$13.00 / Cass - \$8.00

CC-0160 EAST COAST BLUEGRASS BAND "Life's Mysteries" A superlative collection of traditional bluegrass from a Charlottesville, Virginia-based band. Project contains deftly-written originals balanced with cleverly chosen gems from bluegrass and country circles. CD - \$13.00 / Cass - \$8.00

CC-0161 RANDALL HYLTON "Love Songs For Patricia" Fine collection of new love songs, all but two written by Randall. Many of the songs were written in tribute to Randall's wife, Patricia. As usual, lots of excellent Travis-style guitar picking. CD - \$13.00 / Cass - \$8.00

CC-0162 MIKE HENDERSON "Silver Lining" New solo project by gifted West Virginia songwriter/singer/guitarist. Special guests include Bill Emerson, Mark Newton, Rickie & Ronnie Simpkins, Steve Spence, Fred Travers, Emery Lester, etc. CD only - \$13.00 Contains CD-Rom information

CC-0163 THE MONEYHUNS "Just As The Sun Went Down" Lovely collection of family-style gospel, from east Tennessee. Superb four-part singing backed by rhythm and lead guitar. Many fine songs that will likely be new to bluegrass/gospel music fans. CD only - \$13.00 Contains CD-Rom information

CC-0164 TOM, BRAD & ALICE "Been There Still" Magnificent collection of old-time music by Tom Sauber (banjo), Brad Leftwich (fiddle) and Alice Gerrard (guitar). Known for their instrumental abilities, the trio shines on an excellent array of vocal selections as well. CD only - \$13.00 Contains CD-Rom information

Copper Creek / PO Box 3161 / Roanoke, VA 24015 Please add \$3.00 for shipping

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Recording Reviews

(Continued from Page 19) (with BR5-49), My Deceitful Heart (with Ralph Stanley II), Bright Morning Star (with Kathy Mattea) Personnel: The liner notes only mentioned the vocalist who appeared on this project. I assume it's the Clinch Mountain Boys who are providing the instrumental work throughout.

By Ken Reynolds

Clinch Mountain Country is the latest release by the legendary Ralph Stanley on the Rebel label. Ralph is joined by a host of country artists who sing with him on a variety of bluegrass and country songs.

At first, I didn't think that I was going to like this CD. But as I started listening to it, my attitude changed.

Ralph, along with Vince Gill and Patty Loveless, did a great job on "If That's The Way You Feel" and "A Lonesome Night". The harmonies of this trio were a joy to listen to. Other highlights on this project for me were "Shouting On The Hills Of Glory" and "Nobody's Love Is Like Mine" where Ralph performed with by Ricky Skaggs

"Are You Afraid To Die" with Sonya and Becky Isaacs was also a pretty song. I also enjoyed Ralph singing with George Jones on a Jones classic, "The Window Up

There is a lot of good music on this CD. The only one that I didn't care for was "The Lonesome River". On this song Bob Dylan sang the lead vocal with Ralph doing harmony. In my humble opinion, Dylan's singing totally ruined a very beautiful song.

I found it most interesting to hear known country artists singing bluegrass music. Of course there were some "ringers" on this CD. As everyone knows Ricky Skaggs, Rhonda Vincent, Joe Diffe, Alison Krauss, Vince Gill, Laurie Lewis, Tim O'Brien, Vern Gosdin and Marty Stuart are not exactly strangers to the bluegrass genre.

Overall, I really enjoyed this album. I think it is one of the most unique projects on the market today, one that any bluegrass fan would enjoy.

BOOK REVIEW

Inside Bluegrass 20 Years of Bluegrass Photography Author: Becky Johnson

Empire Publishing, Inc. P.O. Box 717 Madison, NC 27025

by Suzanne Denison

You've heard the old saying, "A picture is worth a thousand words." Well, Becky Johnson proves that this old adage is true in her book "Inside Bluegrass - 20 Years of Bluegrass Photography" which was recently released by Empire Pub-

Becky is a well known author/ photographer, and the wife of Art Menius, formerly of IBMA and Art's Artists. She has been attending bluegrass festivals since the early 1970's, and offers us a unique insight on the backstage lives of performers through the lens of her camera.

Alan O'Bryant of the Nashville Bluegrass Band wrote in the book's forward: "Becky Johnson brings us a unique opportunity to view the world of Bluegrass music from the perspective of love and devotion, admiration and respect as well as bumor and irony. She is a lover of the great Bluegrass of the past as well as a devoted follower of the music in its present and is passionately concerned about its future... In this book, she brings us images of people and places of a wonderful music that is enjoyed by extraordinary people all over the

In this book, you'll see photographs of Bluegrass greats (and newcomers) from a very young Peter Rowan on stage with the Green Grass Gringos in 1977 to Chris Thiele, Jack Lawrence and T. Michael Coleman at Merlefest, 1995. There are posed group photos of bands, close-ups which show the intense concentration on the faces of individual musicians, long-shots of the tour buses of the greats... and

"Inside Bluegrass" has over 100 photographs from the author's collection, all labeled with names and dates - pictures which give you a glimpse of your favorite musicians past and present that you might have never seen in person. Or, if you did see them in person, Becky's photographs bring back precious memories of festivals past.

I thoroughly enjoyed Becky Johnson's book, and would recommend it to anyone who is a fan of Bluegrass music. You can purchase the book by writing to the address at the beginning of the review.

In addition, for a limited time the publisher is offering a free CD with each book purchased for only \$25.00 post paid. If you mention this offer, you can choOse from the following CDs: The Johnson Mountain Boys "Live at the Birchmere", J.D. Crowe "Straight Ahead," or The McCoury Brothers "The McCoury Brothers".

If you would like further information, or a list of Empire Publishing products, you can call them at (209) 336-427-5850, or FAX: 336-

Bands and Upcoming Gigs...

If you would like to be listed in this column, please send your entertainment schedule to the editor by the 1st of the preceding month. Bands will be listed unless they ask to be dropped from the roster.

California Based Bands · Acme String Ensemble - "vintage string band music". Contact Michael Harmon (415) 664-2858 or Chris Carney (707) 876-1858.

Alhambra Valley Band, for information contact Lynn Quinones (510) 229-0365.

All Girl Boys, for information and bookings call (510) 541-3145, or (916) 739-6101

· Andy Padlo Band, for information and bookings, call (415) 431-

 Arkansas Travelers, Traditional Bluegrass Music and Comedy show by award-winning duo. For information and booking, call (831) 477-2172 or write 3507 Clayton Rd., 100, Concord, CA 94519.

· Backcountry, "a variety of acoustic music", including bluegrass, gospel, folk, new-grass, and acoustic jazz. Members play guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo and Dobro. Contact Doug Clark (408) 726-2322.

• Tina Louise Barr, master performer of the Autoharp. For information or bookings, call (209) 522-6548 after 6:00 p.m. (PST).

 Charlie Blacklock with "Charlie's Band". 1821 St. Charles St., Alameda, CA 94501. Phone (510) 523-4649

Bear Ridge Bluegrass, Clan of Bluegrass, hard driving Bluegrass music. For information and bookings contact "Crazy" Pat Conway (209) 592-6389; voice mail: 209-735-5877, P.O. Box 44135, Lemon Cove, CA 93244

 Big Valley Band contemporary and traditional Bluegrass. For information or bookings, call Randy at (916) 687-8556 or Tim at (voice/ fax) (916) 652-6682.

Blue Northern Bluegrass Band -Redding, CA (530) 223-3352 or online... http://www.shasta.com. bluenorthern

Bluegrass, Etc. For information or bookings, contact John Moore, P.O. Box 141, Palomar Mountain, CA 92060 or call (619) 742-1483

· Bluer Pastures, bluegrass music. For bookings contact Glenn Sharp (818) 776-9343 or Jeff Kartak (818) 504-1933. Regular venue - Foley's Family Restaurant, 9685 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills, CA, 3 Sundays a month 5-8 p.m. (818) 353-7433

 Braxton Hicks, for information, write to Kathy Dubois, P.O. Box 1068, Colfax, CA 95713.

Brushy Peak Bluegrass Band, contact (510) 443-5217; 532 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA 94550.

· Cache Valley Drifters, c/o Wally Barnick, 4495 Sycamore Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422, (805) 466-

· California Quickstep, (916) 622-1953 or 622-8525

· Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band, for information and bookings, call Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.

Carolyn Cirimele, for booking or information, P.O. Box 390982, Mountain View, CA 94039-0982; phone (415) 969-7389; e-mail: Cirimele@aol.com.

Clay County, contact Susan Nikas, P.O. Box 604, San Dimas, CA 91773 or phone (909) 599-5891.

· Compost Mountain Boys, traditional Bluegrass music. For information, contact Wildwood Music, 1027 ISt., Arcata, CA 95221 (707) 822-6264. Home page: www.humboldt.edu/ ~manetasm/compost.

· Country Ham, and Carl and Judie Pagter. For booking or information, call (925) 938-4221 or (804)

985-3551

· Coyote Ridge, has been performing traditional and original bluegrass music since 1992. For information and bookings, call Alan M. Bond at (510) 845-2909 or write him at 2820 Benvenue #D, Berkeley, CA 94705.

The Crane Canyon Bluegrass Band, for booking or information, contact Brijet Neff, 9003 Grouse Lane, Petaluma, CA 94954 or call 707-778-8175. Every Thursday night, 6:30-10 p.m., at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma, CA; (707) 775-4232

 Crooked Jades, bluegrass, old time, and original music. For information or bookings, call Dan Lynn at (510) 337-1450. Appearing every 3rd Sunday from 7-11 p.m. at the Radio Valencia Cafe at Valencia and 23rd Street in San Francisco.

 Dark Hollow, traditional Bluegrass band. Contact John Kornhauser (415) 752-0606 2102 Hayes #1, San Francisco, CA 94117 or Alan Bond (510) 845-2909, 2820 Benvenue #D, Berkeley, CA 94705 or http:// www.webbnet.com/~Mandolin/ dkhollow>. or Bonda@ceb. ucop.edu Dark Hollow performs on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month from 7-11 p.m. at Radio Valencia Cafe at Valencia and 23rd Street in San Francisco.

 Doodoo Wah, contact Ron DeLacy, P.O. Box 1500, Columbia, CA 95310 or phone (209) 533-4464. On the World-wide Web at www.colorado.net/picklehead/ doodoowah. December 4, 18 & 19; January 2, 8 & 9, 15 & 16 — "A Winter Night's Yeow" Concerts in various locations. For information or tickets, call (209) 533· Dry Creek, "Bluegrass... and then some." For bookings, contact Lorraine Gunther (510) 233-3200 (day) or (510) 849-4023 (night).

 Dusty Road Boys, contact Rhonda Williams (916) 589-2519.

 Earthquake Country, Bluegrass all the way! For information or bookings, call Paul at (408) 366-1653 or Mark (408) 244-8068.

· Bill Evans, original Bluegrass banjo music and banjo history concert presentations, Rounder recording artist, Banjo Newsletter columnist and IBMA board member; performances, workshops, and private lessons. For information: 510-234-4508; email: <bevans@dnai.com>.

 Foothillbillys-old time string band music and other rural favorites. For information and bookings, call (209) 245-4534 or (209) 296-2601. December 4, 18 & 19; January 2, 8 & 9, 15 & 16 - "A Winter Night's Yeow" Concerts in various locations. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.

· Frettin' Around, Bluegrass, lively acoustic, including innovative styles performed on the autoharp. For bookings contact Tina Louise Barr (209) 522-6548 after 6:00 p.m. (PST)

Gold Coast, a California Bluegrass Band. For bookings or information, call Shelah Spiegel at 714-962-5083 or Greg Lewis at 310-426-2149 or e-mail Shelah at 102010.3276@CompuServe.com>

· Gold Rush Balladeers, Songs of the California Gold Rush and good old-timey music. For information or booking, contact Julie Johnson at 209-533-2842 or write to: PO Box 1201, Angels Camp, CA 95222.

 Good Company, Country, Bluegrass, Folk, Gospel, Old Time to Popular Hits. Contact Jan (408) 223-2628 or Bette (510) 376-

· Gospel Creek Bluegrass Band. For information and bookings, contact Rich Ferguson, 309 Beverly Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577. Phone (510) 568-0887; ore-mail: gospelcreek@juno.com.

Grace Avenue Band, Gospel and Bluegrass Music. For booking information, contact Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.

· The Grass Menagerie, for information and bookings contact Rick Cornish (408) 929-4174 or for an up to date schedule you can visit their web site at http:// www.research.digital.com/wrl/ projects/misc/Grass Menager

Richard Greene & The Grass Is Greener. For information and bookings, contact Jim D'Ville, P.O. Box 108, Yachats, OR 97498 or call (541) 547-3237 (phone/

· Harmony Grits, for information call Mike at (408) 685-0969 or

Bands and Upcoming Gigs...

Jim (408) 464-1104, or write P.O. Box 1598, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

 Haywired, upbeat, acoustic folka-billy. For information or bookings, contact Mark Guiseponi in Stockton at (209) 465-0932.

The Heartland String Band, Bluegrass, Traditional, Old Timey, touch of Irish. For information and bookings, call (209) 667-7279 or (209) 634-1190.

 High Country, contact Butch Waller, P.O. Box 10414, Oakland, CA94610, phone (510) 533-9370.

• High Hills, Contemporary, traditional and original Bluegrass music for all occasions; sound system if needed; for information and bookings, please call Leslie Spitz (818) 781-0836; email: highhill.pacbell.netorvisit their website at http://home.pacbell.net/highhill/ November 18—Papa's Western BBQ & Saloon, 6-9 p.m., Long Beach, CA; December 13—Papa's Western BBQ & Saloon, 6-9 p.m., Long Beach, CA; December 18—Lamppost Pizza, 7:30-10:30 pm, 7071 Warner, Huntington Beach, CA, (714) 841-5552

 HiJinks, P.O. Box 2513, Sebastopol, CA 95473. Call Chip or Sara (707) 823-3615. High Mountain String Band, P.O. Box 1195, Mt. Shasta, CA 96067.
 For information and booking, call (916) 938-2167.

 Homemade Jam, contact Sam Ferry at 530-668-1211 for information or bookings.

HomeSpun Duet, a blend of musical styles, including: traditional, swing and Bluegrass. Contact Barbara or Gene at (530)841-0630. Homespun@jps.net.

• Horse Opry (209) 532-5109 or (209) 853-2128, P.O. Box 1475, Columbia, CA 95310.

• Hwy 52, San Diego-based traditional and original bluegrass band. Contact Wayne Dickerson, 1657 E. H St., Chula Vista, CA 91913, 619-421-8211, email Hwy52@aol.com or on the web at http://members.aol.com/ hwy52/ November 21 – Hwy 52 opening for the Kathy Kallick Band at a concert sponsored by the Bluegrass Association of California, 8 pm, Neighborhood Church, 301 N. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena, CA. \$12 advance, \$14 at door. For information, call 949-496-6799 or 818-998-1284; December 31 - 9 to 9:45 pm, First Night Celebration, Escondido, CA; Hwy 52 will perform in the City Council Chambers as part of this huge familyoriented, alcohol-free New Year's Eve party that takes place all around the downtown. 760-480-0086.

 In Cahoots, specializing in bluegrass and old-time fiddle music.
 For bookings or information contact Jerry Pujol at (707)226-3084 or Cass Pujol at (707) 553-8137.

 Iron Mountain String Band — For information and bookings, contact Al Shusterman, at (916) 961-9511 or write to 5717 Reinhold St., Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

 Just Kidding, interactive traditional and contemporary music for young folks. For information contact Lynn Quinones (510) 229-0365.

• The Kathy Kallick Band, for booking or information, contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544.

• (The) Freilachmakers Klezmer String Band, klezmer music with old-timey, Celtic and Balkan overtones. Featuring fiddle, clawhammer banjo, mandolin, guitar, accordion, balalaika and bass. Based in the Sacramento/ Davis area. For information or bookings call Andy Rubin at (916)- Laurel Canyon Ramblers, for booking or information, contact Herb Pederson at 818-980-7478 or Dana Thorin 626-799-2901 or e-mail: dthorin@jps.net.

 Laurie Lewis & Grant Street, for booking information, contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544.

Liberty, for booking and information, contact Rudy Ekstein at (310) 204-6102 or (818) 787-4843 or write to: 2721 Cardiff, Los Angeles, CA 90034.

Loose Gravel, Bluegrass and beyond. For information and bookings, call Chuck Ervin (510) 536—05996 or write 2555 Wakefield Ave., Oakland, CA 94606.

 Lost Highway, "Bluegrass the way you like it." For information and bookings, contact Dick Brown at (714)744-5847 or Ken Orrick at (909)280-9114.

 Modern Hicks, contemporary Bluegrass. For booking or information, call 707-544-6909.

 Mojave County Band, bluegrass and Cajun music. For booking information contact: Tony Griffin, 4410 Cover St., Riverside, CA 92506. Phone (909) 784-5003 or Gary at (909) 737-1766.

 Mountain Creatures, for bookings and information contact Lee Ann Welch-Caswell at (408) 867-4324 or Sonja Shell at (408) 354-3872.

 Pacific Crest, for information and bookings, call Steve Dennison at (805) 588-2436.

 Past Due and Playable. For information call (916) 265-4328 or (916) 265-8672; or E-mail: gsobonya@jps.net

 Pleasant Valley, (the Giacopuzzi Family Bluegrass Band), Contemporary style Bluegrass Music. For information or bookings, call (805) 987-2386.

 Poison Oak Band, contact David or Linda, 10252 Agnes Circle, Rancho Cordova, Ca 95670, phone (916) 363-2832.

 Radio Rail, for information and bookings, contact Jackie or David, 2312 Jane, Mt. View, CA 94043, (415) 967-0290 or website:
 www.omix.com/radiorail>.

 Red Dirt Bullies, for booking or information, call (916) 342-8270 or check out their web site at www.aracnet.com/-obagrass/ reddirtb.html.

The River City Boys, for booking or information call (916) 454-5015 or (916) 457-0713.

(Continued on Page 22)





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Bands and Upcoming Gigs...

(Continued from Page 21)

- Roanoke, traditional, driving bluegrass. For information and bookings, contact John Kael, FAX/Phone (408) 427-2248, 420 Market Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 or visit their website at http://gate.cruzio.com/~roanoke.
- Rose Canyon Bluegrass Band, traditional, contemporary and original bluegrass. For bookings and information contact Elizabeth Burkett, 6354 Lorca Dr., San Diego, CA 92115 or call (619) 286-1836
- Round Valley Hogcallers, Folk, blues, bluegrass, gospel, Irish, children's shows and acoustic country music. For information or bookings, contact Gary Bowman, P.O. Box 608, Covelo, CA 95428, phone (707) 983-1004.
- Rural Delivery, contact Larry or Carol Bazinet, 26185 Maitlin Rd., Romona, CA 92065, phone (619) 486-3437 or 789-7629.
- Demitra Christine & The Ryestraw Band, traditional bluegrass and old-time music. For bookings for information, write P.O. Box 334, La Canada, CA 91012, phone (818) 957-2160.
- Saddle Rash Bluegrass Band, for bookings and information, call (916) 581-1193.
- Schankman Twins, for bookings and information, contact Dana or Lauren at (818) 713-0677; write to: P.O. Box 9226, Calabasas, CA 91372; or e-mail: <shankmantwins@juno.com> Nov. 14 Greater Downstate Indoor Music Festival, Decator, Illinois, 217-243-3159;
- Sidesaddle & Co. contact Kim or Lee Anne, P.O. Box 462, Saratoga, CA 95071, phone (408) 637-8742 or (408) 867-4324 or on the internet at <www.cruzio.com/

- ~gpa/sidesaddle/index.htm> or e-mail: <sidesaddle/99@yahoo .com>. Sam's BBQ, 1461 Campbell Avenue, Campbell, CA (408) 374-9676 every Thursday evening 6-9 p.m. reservations recommended. February 25-28 — Wintergrass Bluegrass Festival, Tacoma, WA; May 1999 - Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, Mariposa, CA.
- Sierra Blue, Bluegrass and acoustic country duets. Call Hugh or Sheri Hoeger at (916) 933-2270.
- Sierra Mountain Bluegrass, contact Jesse Askins, 6023 Wright Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308, phone (805) 393-1293.
- Sierra Sidekicks Cowboy songs, cowboy comedy, cowboy poetry, and classic country songs with rich Western harmonies, velvet yodels, mellow acoustic guitar, and boot stompin' bass rhythms.
 For information (or demo tape), contact Wayne Shrope at 818
 Wightman Dr., Lodi, Ca 95242; phone (209) 368-6551.
- Slate Mountain Bluegrass Band; for information and bookings write 6864 Diablo View Tr., Placerville, CA95667 or call (916) 644-2149 or (916) 333-4083.
- Slim Pickins, Traditional and contemporary Bluegrass. Contact Bob and Joanne Martin, (619) 273-3048.
- Sonoma Mountain Band, for information and bookings, contact John Karsemeyer, (707) 996-4029, P.O. Box 44, Eldridge, Ca 95431 Pizzeria Capri in Sonoma, appearing every month. Call (707) 935-6805 for dates and times. Murphy's Irish Pub on the Sonoma Plaza, 8 to 10 p.m., first Friday of every month.
- Sourdough Slim P.O. Box 2021, Paradise, CA 95967, phone (530)

872-1187 or visit the Sourdough web page at http://www.twc. online.com/custom/ sourdoughslim November 14 & 15 - Auburn Craft and Music Festival, fairgrounds, Auburn, CA 209-533-3473; November 27-29 Sonora Christmas Craft & Music Festival, fairgrounds, Sonora, CA, 209-533-3473; December 4-The Salt Mine, Lincoln, CA 8pm 530-645-2144 W/The Saddle Pals; November 18,19 - Sutter Creek Theater, Sutter Creek, CA 8pm W/The Saddle Pals & Doodoo Wah; November 27 - Autry Museum of Western Heritage, Los Angeles, CA 12-2:30pm 213-667-2000; March 13, 1999 - 13 Cowboy Jubilee, Convention Center, Carson City, NV Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival, Melody Ranch, Santa Clarita, CA W/The Saddle

- Spikedrivers "100% all-natural gnugrass". For information or bookings, write to Mike Ting, 6053 Chabot Rd, Oakland CA 94618; e-mail to: mktman@ dante.lbl.gov or call (510) 652-3272
- Springfield Crossing, original folk, jazz, bluegrass, swing. Contact Richard Sholer, P.O. Box 1073, Twain Harte, CA 95383 or phone (209) 586-2374.
- Ron Stanley, for information and bookings write P.O.Box 724, Garberville, Ca. 95542, Phone (707)923-2603, or e-mail: <stanley@humboldt.net>.
- String Nation, 25 Lakewood Way, Chico, CA 95926, phone (530) 342-7390 or 893-1003.
- Stringin' Along-Good time acoustic music of various styles including bluegrass, blues, swing, and fun oldies. For information or bookings, please call Mark Giuseponi in Stockton (209) 465-0932 or Ron Linn in Brentwood (510) 634-1155.
- Valley Bluegrass Boys, contact Bob Sandstrum, (619) 560-5526 or write to 7757 Nightingale Way, San Diego, CA 92123.
- Virtual Strangers (bluegrass) for information or bookings, call Jon Cherry at (619) 659-3699 or Mike Tatar at (619) 679-1225.
- Wild Blue, Bluegrass Trio featuring Elmo Shropshire on Banjo.
 For bookings call (415) 924-7814, or write to P.O. Box 724, Larkspur, CA 94977.
- The Wilton Prison Band, traditional Bluegrass and New Grass.
 For booking or information, contact the Warden's Office Drew Evans at (916) 344-8589.
- The Witcher Brothers, for information or bookings, contact Dennis Witcher, P.O. Box 33903, Granada Hills, CA 91394, phone (818) 366-7713.
- Yesterday's Country Roads, "Country, Bluegrass Gospel", for information, contact Dan Bonds,

P.O. Box 727, Hilmar, CA 95324 or call (209) 632-9079.

Bands Based in Other States

- 5 For the Gospel, for bookings and information, call (606) 474-2558, P.O. Box 778, Grayson, KY 41143.
- Bluegrass Patriots, for booking and information, 1807 Essex Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80526, or call (970) 482-0863.
- Blue Highway, for booking for information, contact Class Act Entertainment, P.O. Box 771, Gallatin, TN 37066, (615) 451-1229
- Breakaway for information or bookings, contact Andy Sacher, PO Box 8343, Burlington, VT 05402; e-mail: sachman@juno.com
- Vince Combs and the Shadetree Bluegrass Boys, traditional Bluegrass music. For bookings and information, contact Vince Combs, 665 West Krepps Rd., Xenia, OH 45385 or phone (513) 372-7962 or Grayce Ausburn Agency (410) 768-0224.
- The Cox Family, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- Dan Crary, for information or bookings, contact Class Act Entertainment, P.O. Box 160236, Nashville, TN 37216, phone 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; email: < Class_Act@compuserve .com; website: <www.mind spring.com/-bumn/classact > .
 November 7 — San Diego Folk Heritage Concert, San Dieguito Methodist Church, San Diego, CA;
- J.D Crowe and the New South, for information and bookings, contact: Philibuster Entertainment, Phil Leadbetter, 8207 Thompson School Road, Corryton, TN 37721, (423) 688-8855; e-mail: <lead@esper.com>.
- Jerry Douglas, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- Dry Branch Fire Squad, for information and bookings contact Bill Evans, 5801 Poinsett Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530; phone 510-234-4508; e-mail: <bevans@ dnai.com>.
- The Fox Family for information and bookings, contact Kim Fox, 2614 Ogleton Rd., Annapolis, MD 21403, (410) 267-0432.
- Foxfire, for bookings and information, contact Larry Bulaich,
 P.O. Box 1091 #42, Grants Pass,
 OR 97526, (541) 476-3291 or Jeff Jones, 349 E. Main St. #9,
 Ashland, OR 97520 (541) 482-1418
- Freight Hoppers, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. February 13 & 14 — Mid-Winter Bluegrass

- Festival, Denver, CO;
- Front Range, for bookings and information contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544.
- Gibson Brothers For information and bookings, contact Al Shusterman, at (916) 961-9511 or write to 5717 Reinhold St., Fair Oaks, CA 95628.
- The Grasshoppers For information and bookings, contact Glen Garrett, 844 Bonnie Brae, Nampa, Idaho 83651 or call (208) 465-0399.
- · High Plains Tradition, For booking and information, contact Chuck Tinsley, PO Box 522, Denver, CO 80201; call (303) 601-4113; e-mail: HighPlainsTrad ition@yahoo.com; or visit their web site: http://www.banjo.com/ Profiles/HPT.html. November 13-15 - Wickenburg, AZ - Four Corners States Bluegrass Festival, Tickets/Info: Mike Wallace (520) 684-0680; January 15-17, 1999 -Blythe, CA - Bluegrass Festival. Tickets/Info: Barbara Martin (800) 443-5513; February 12-14 - Northglen, CO - Mid-Winter Bluegrass Festival. Tickets/Info: Ken Seaman (970) 482-0863; May 1-2 - Park City, KS - Park City Bluegrass Festival. Tickets/Info: lim Bullard (316) 691-8178
- Chris Jones and the Nite Drivers.
 For information and bookings, contact Al Shusterman, at (916) 961-9511 or write to 5717 Reinhold St., Fair Oaks, CA95628.
- Steve Kaufman, for information about concerts, workshops and bookings, call 1-800-FLATPIK or outside US call (615) 982-3808, P.O. Box 1020, Alcoa, TN 37701.
- Alison Krauss and Union Station, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, 59 Music Square West, Nashville, TN 37203, phone (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, for information and bookings write: P.O. Box 3141, Bristol, TN 37625-3141.
- Lewis Family, Route 1, Box 75, Lincolnton, GA 30817. Phone (404) 359-3767.
- Lonesome River Band, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- Lost and Found, for information and bookings, contact Allen Mills, P.O. Box 90, Woolwine, VA24185, (540) 930-2622.
- Claire Lynch and the Front Porch String Band, for information and bookings contact Class Act Entertainment, P.O. Box 771, Gallatin, TN 37066, phone (615) 451-1229.
- Kate MacKenzie, for information and bookings write to P.O. Box 14404, St. Paul, MN 55114, or call (800) 695-4687.

HELP WANTED

The Board of Directors of the California Bluegrass Association is seeking volunteers to fill the following positions:

secretary -- duties include attendance at regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors (every 2nd Sunday except June); taking and transcribing the minutes of every meeting; and distributing them to Board members. Occasional correspondence as needed. Should take shorthand or speedwriting, or minutes can be tape recorded for later transcription. For further information, or to volunteer your services, please contact Kathy Kirkpatrick at (209) 473-1616.

2 VOLUNTEERS -- to assist the Sond man at the Suzanne Thomas/Don Rigsby Concert on Saturday, November 21st in Citrus Heights. To volunteer or for further information, call Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.

Bands and Upcoming Gigs...

(Continued from Page 22)

- · Del McCoury Band, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- · John McEuen, for information and bookings write 5384 S. Alpine, Murray, Utah 84107 or call (801) 265-8486.
- · Lynn Morris Band, for information and bookings contactClass Act Entertainment: phone 615-262-6886; FAX 615-262-6881; email: Class Act@computserve. com; website: www.mindspring. com/budm/classact
- · Nashville Bluegrass Band, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, 59 Music Square West, Nashville, TN 37203, phone (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- The New Asheville Grass, for information and bookings, contact Desi Murphy, 834 Cragmont Rd. #15, Black Mountain, NC 28711 (704) 669-8752 or Nicholas Chandler, 13 Christ School Road, Arden, NC28701 (704) 684-4968.
- No Strings Attached, "Bluegrass with a Twist". For bookings or information, contact Kathy Boyd at (503) 656-4462 or Judy Arter at (503) 632-4616. Check out their Web Site at < http://www.Swift Site.com/nostringsattached>
- Northern Lights, for additional information and booking contact Linda Bolton, 437 Live Oak Loop NE, Albuquerque, MN 87122-1406, phone/FAX 505-856-7100, email < nlightsmgt@aol.com >. November 14 - Middleborough, MA, Black & White Theatre, 250 N. Main St., 8p, \$15, 508-947-7833.; November 21 Londonderry, NH, Muse at the Gray Goose, 2 Young Rd., 8p, \$15, 603-437-6085, http:// www.ntplx.net/~jmiele/muse/ >.; December 31 — Concord, NH, Capitol Center for the Arts (w/Beausoleil), 44 S. Main St., 7:30 & 10:30p shows, \$24.50 per show, 603-225-1111, http:// www.ccanh.com>. Dinner \$25, 5:30 & 8:30. "Breakfast" at 12:30a, \$10 w/dinner ticket, \$15/ w/o dinner ticket. Area set aside for dancing, fireworks telecast live at midnight.
- David Parmley-Scott Vestal & Continental Divide, for booking or information, contact David Parmley or Scott Vestal, P.O. Box 1346, Hendersonville, TN 37077, (615) 822-5637 or (615) 824-
- · Lisa Ray and Old Town, for information and bookings, contact Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.
- Peter Rowan, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- ·Sam Hill, for information and bookings, contact Doug Sammons, 22290 N.W. Green

- Mtn. Rd., Banks, OR 97106; 503-647-2350; or E-mail at DeeannBG@aol.com. December 5 - 9pm to ??, at The Snake and the Weasel, 1720 SE 12th, Portland, OR; (503) 280-9858 or (503) 288-4191; February 6 -9pm to 12:30am, at McMenamin's Boon's Treasury, 888 Liberty Street NE, Salem, OR; (503) 399-
- Sand Mountain Boys, Traditional Bluegrass Music. For information and bookings contact call Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.
- Dean Sapp & Hartford Express, traditional and original bluegrass. For bookings and information, contact Power Music/Old Train Music, 2711 Augustine Herman Hwy., Chesapeake City, MD 21915 (410) 885-3319
- Seldom Scene, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.

- The Slide Mountain Boys—good, pure, down to earth, traditional Bluegrass. For booking or information, contact Charles Edsall, 3545 Vista Blvd., Sparks, NV 89436 or call 702-626-3412
- Southern Rail for information or bookings, contact: Sharon Horovitch PO Box 323, Watertown, MA 02471; phone 781-891-0258; or e-mail: <SouthernRail@world.std.com> November 20 - Harvest Festival, Blackstone River Theatre, 549 Broad St., Cumberland, RI, (8 pm); November 21 - Chocolate Church, Bath, ME, 7:30 p.m.; November 22 — Left Bank Cafe, Blue Hill, ME, (1 pm) 207-374-220; December 4 — The Beal House, Unitarian Universalist Church, Rt. 106, Kingston, MA;
- Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers, for information and bookings, contact Larry Sparks, P.O. Box 505, Greenburg, IN

- 47240, (812) 663-8055.
- Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, for information and bookings contact Randy Campbell of Superior Communications Company, 340 S. Columbus Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85711-4138, phone (520) 327-5439, FAX (520) 327-5378, L.A. Office (213) 258-0969.
- · Larry Stephenson Band, for information and bookings, write to P.O. Box 731, Antioch, TN 37011-0731 or phone (615) 731-3123.
- · String 'Em Up, Pizza Hut Champions. For bookings or information, contact Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.
- · Sunnyside Drive, featuring Karl Maerz, Doug Moore, Bob Martin, and JoAnne Martin. For bookings and information, contact Karl Maerz (602) 983-1757 or (602) 964-2670.
- The Tylers, Bluegrass, Old-time

Country and Gospel featuring the close family vocal harmonies of loe, Kathy and Dee. For bookings for information, write 27602 N. 151 Ave., Sun City, AZ 85373-9568 or phone (602) 584-1552, FAX (602) 584-4396, e-mail tylers@doitnow.com or visit their web site at http://www.doit now.com/-tylers>

David Davis and the Warrior River Boys, for booking and information, contact David Davis, 6539 County Rd. 1545, Cullman, AL 35055, (205) 796-2261 or call Al 95 Shusterman at (916) 961-9511



Virtual Band

A Bluegrass Method For Banjo, Guitar, Fiddle or Mandolin

"Virtual Band" is a product of many years of teaching and input from my students. For a long time, I've seen a need for a method that would teach beginning players how to play along with others in a band.

The heart of the program is the recording, a high quality mix of rhythm guitar, mandolin, bass, lead guitar, dobro, lead mandolin and banjo. The CD makes it easy to repeat a particular song over and over at the same speed to make your practicing more productive. By providing a variety of tempos, you can pick the one you feel the most comfortable with.

More than one solo is provided as you progress in technique. The first solo, or break is the easiest (beginner) and is generally the basic melody, with the words included. After playing it, another instrument will take a solo on the recording and you will need to play the back-up, followed by another solo that's a little more difficult (advanced), thereby taking turns with the other musicians, just like a real playing situation. Included are the endings. The music is written larger than is found in most music books, so it is

Scales and fingering studies, although dry to play by themselves, are presented with a full bluegrass band back-up. This helps you keep even timing and helps you to hear the texture of the harmonies that fit each note.

Included are additional sections that cover other important topics:

- How to count and keep good timing
- The use of vibrato (fiddle), to make your playing sound warmer
- Learning to sight read better
- Understanding music theory so that you can begin to develop your own individual style
- Picking direction and Bass runs

Separate recordings and books are available for the banjo, mandolin, guitar and fiddle, working together with matching arrangements, so that everyone can play together.

By practicing diligently and regularly, you will find a lot of enjoyment playing with "Virtual Band" and will soon be able to join others in a hot bluegrass jam session.

Happy Picking!

The book and play along CD is \$23.00 ppd. Send check or money order to: Jay Buckey, 4017 N. Torrey Pines, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108. (702) 396-7824.

A European Bluegrass Odyssey or What I Did on My Vacation in Europe

by Barry R. Willis of Colorado USA

Bluegrass music is alive and well in Europe. Bluegrass in Europe has a small but very dedicated following. As part of the "international" portion of the name "International Bluegrass Music Association," Europe finally pulled off their own autonomous event. With the cooperation of the IBMA and several European bluegrass enthusiasts, the first annual European World of Bluegrass and Trade Show took place May 22-24, 1998.

After much communication between the organizers who live in Switzerland, Holland and the United States, they held the event and the people came: about 300 paying customers. The event was structured similar to the IBMA World of Bluegrass in America: 26 bands from various countries and a trade show for vendors.

The vendor part is where my wife Jan and I enter the picture. Doing business as Pine Valley Music, we were invited to set up a booth to display our book on the history of bluegrass called America's Music: Bluegrass. Hopefully there would be an interest in our product. As it turns out, there was. Arrangements were made to not only attend EWoB but also use this as our yearly vacation by spending some time touring Belgium, Holland and France. This article is an account of that trip.

We called our friend Yves Aerts in Belgium and told him we were coming. We'd met Yves (pronounced eve) earlier when he stayed with us for over a month in Colorado. While he was on holiday in America, he visited festivals in Kansas, Colorado and Kentucky including IBMA in Owensboro. So here we go, off to Europe to visit Yves and his family in Zoersel, Belgium, which is just outside of Antwerp and, as many of you already know, is often called the "diamond capitol of the world".

We love Yves and knew that his family would probably be as nice as he. We were right. Big smiles greeted us when we met his girlfriend Annelies, his sister Ina (pronounced ee'-na) and his mother Monique. The smiles continued for the two weeks we stayed with them. Yves lives with Monique and Ina and is a college student majoring in elementary education. Ina is a college student as well, majoring in Communication.

Monique is a distinguished actress who, as a veteran of 25 years as a thespian in the country, is re-

ally quite famous for her parts in plays by Arthur Miller, Shakespeare, Molliere and Tennessee Williams and work on Belgian radio and television. The entire family speaks either good or "tic-tac" English, as Monique describes it.

Yves met us at the Brussells airport and brought us to his home in the suburbs of Zoersel and set us up comfortably in our own efficiency apartment which was attached to the house. Free-standing homes, while common the small towns such as Zoersel, are almost the exception in urban Belgium because so many of its citizens live in apartments where bicycles are often the only transportation needed. Yves is 22 years old now and recently acquired his own car and license.

Let's talk about cars. We rented a new diesel-powered Audi. This is considered a really fancy car here. We were fortunate to get a diesel because of the high cost of fuel in Europe. Diesel fuel is much cheaper and we knew we had a lot of driving to do. There were few American cars in Europe. Most cars of European families are compact-sized or smaller. I saw a cute Mercedes-Benz which was almost as vertical as it is long-great for parallel parking!

Our first trip away from the house in Zoersel was at 0800 on Saturday morning of the 16th. Jan and I went out before the family got up to look for some coffee to start the day. We weren't recovered from the eight-hour time change from Colorado yet and we needed something to help us adjust to the change in circadian rhythms.

We went looking for coffeegood strong coffee. We found a pastry shop. But this wasn't a Dunkin' Donuts as we're accustomed; there was no coffee. And the other stores and restaurants wouldn't open until 10 a.m.. So we went back home and went back to bed. We wouldn't really recover fully from the time changes until Monday.

Saturday was a full day for us as we started to plan our roles as tourists. Our first trip was to be with Yves and Monique. They were great guides wherever we would go. They were patient in explaining everything and quite knowledgeable about their country. Antwerp was our first destination and it was beautiful. The sun was shining and temperature about 70° F (20° C). Simply gorgeous!



BEAUTIFUL ANTWERP -- Jan and Barry Willis pose on a street in Antwerp, Belgium.

The countryside in northern Belgium looks similar to Virginia and Kentucky and states of that region but it usually remains more pleasant because it doesn't get as hot as its United States counterparts. Folks, this is simply a beautiful place on earth. The natives are friendly, active, unassuming and unselfish people who haven't forgotten the true value of a close family. For me, the small villages and towns were the most beautiful parts of the country. The townsfolk of all ages leisurely bicycling their way to and fro exudes a sense of relaxation and friendliness.

Antwerp, though a number of miles inland from the North Sea, is a seaport of significant proportions and much ancient history. Its castles, homes and cobblestone roads are often hundreds of years old and very well-preserved. The churches are absolutely magnificent. The monstrous pipe organ in the Cathedral of Our Lady must have really been something to hear in the old days.

Construction of this church began about 1352. Portions of the original church are still accessible to the public. This is probably where the saying "rich people stink" came from because the very well-to-do church-goers of Antwerp were often buried beneath the sanctuary floor of the church and the rotting flesh could be smelled for many years thereafter. Also inside the church are paintings by the legendary Rubens. Other Antwerp painters include Van Dyke and Jordaens.

The origin of the name of

this largest city in northern Belgium is also interesting, though probably completely legend with no basis of fact. It seems there was once a giant who charged a heavy toll for ship passage on the River Scheldt. He was eventually challenged by the Roman warrior Sylvius Brabo who slew him. Brabo cut off the giant's hand and threw it into the river. The word "ant" came from "hand" and "werpen" means "throw." So, literally, Antwerp means "hand tossed."

Yves showed me a great place to buy old bluegrass records: The Collector which is on Schuttershofstraat. I bought a couple Bill Monroe LPs I didn't have.

The next day we found a city which was even more beautiful than Antwerp. We found Bruggé on the coast. This simply has to be the most beautiful city I've ever seen with its cleanliness, rows of historic homes still lived in today and its colorful restaurants, churches, public buildings and canals.

Tuesday found us on a trip to southern Belgium to the city of Dinant. Traveling through the countryside south from Brussels took us through some beautiful countryside of rolling hills filled with green fields which were covered with healthy-looking dairy cattle. The natural grass supports far more cattle per acre than what we're used to in Colorado. The flavor of the Gouda (Dutch) and Brie (French) cheeses reflected the importance of cheese making here. The cheese seemed to have a flavor which I

never knew existed in these products.

About halfway into the southern part of Belgium the road signs turned French. We found that while the Flemish language which the people in northern Belgium use is mostly Dutch, the closer we got to the French border in the south the more pronounced the French influence upon not only the language but also the lifestyle. We even found waiters and waitresses who spoke only French-something we didn't expect because the English language was so widely used in the northern parts of Belgium and throughout Holland.

Dinant has an ancient fortress, a citadel, which has been in continuous use by military forces since about 1500 AD. Sitting a hundred yards above the Meuse (Maas) River and the city, many an arrow, bullet and cannon has been fired from its walls in defense of the city which has been occupied militarily by the French, Germans and Belgians through the years.

A small castle in Spontin, near Dinant, was one of the reasons I like Europe: the castles. Complete with two moats and a village courtyard, which served as the city's marketplace for many years beginning about the 15th century, the castle was built by a wealthy family which found it necessary to construct those five-foot thick walls for protection against raiders. Its rooms are now cold, vacant dirty and numerous, yet some of them have been retrofitted with modern plumbing facilities so that we can

A European Bluegrass Odyssey

actually spend the night in a Medieval castle. Wandering through the rooms or up the tiny, winding staircases, we can almost hear the conversations of the inhabitants of long ago as they discuss their daily lives in the kitchen while the bread was being kneaded for dinner. The castle's caretaker is a direct descendant of the original family. The family is required to actively maintain it or it will be taken over by the state of Belgium.

On Thursday we headed for the site of the EWoB festival in Lichtenvoorde, Holland. It's a little more than a two-hour drive from "home" in Zoersel. The countryside is extremely flat, making it very conducive to bicycles. Let's talk about that for a moment-bicycles, that is.

With the occasional exception of a competitive rider, the bikes usually amount to not much more than basic transportation. They are very vertical for comfort and rather unstable compared to what we use in America. I have two bikes at home: a road bike and a mountain bike and either of these are much more sturdy than those I rode there. There's a definite difference in feel as well as function. A world apart, one might say.

Upon arrival at the village of Lichtenvoorde, we checked into the 't Zwaantje hotel, a quaint little abode next to the bar which soon became our new home for bluegrass music in the eastern part of Holland. We gathered at De Schilder (which means "the painter") pub that night for a jam session. The proprietors really didn't know what to expect when Dick Kimmel and his group brought out their instruments and asked to play bluegrass. But I think they liked it because they invited us back the next night and the next, too.

Bluegrass is actually quite scarce in Europe and finding the music of the bluegrass pioneers is very difficult. Much of the bluegrass music played by European artists is heavily influenced by modern bluegrass artists simply because the new bluegrass is easier to obtain. Yves is a guitarist of the new acoustic music style. He idolizes the music of Tony Rice and knows and plays many of Tony's most complicated licks. The emphasis of the European bluegrass bands seems to be on picking, not rhythm. Perhaps, through international festivals such as this one, they will find the importance of the rhythm in bluegrass. My opinion only.

The hotel has a convention area which we used for the European World of Bluegrass Trade Show. Still another room, quite a bit larger, served as the concert hall



EUROPEAN JAM -- Members of the Czech Bluegrass Band, "Sunny Side" jammed at the Willis' booth during the European World of Bluegrass at Lichtenvoorde, the Netherlands.

where Pieter Groenveld set up a sound system. In the Trade Show Jan and I set up our booth to sell our America's Music: Bluegrass book and our Rural Rhythm Records CDs (for which I write the liner notes). Gary Reid was there with his Copper Creek Records, Pete and Kitsy Kuykendall were there with Bluegrass Unlimited magazine; their last name is Dutch. I wonder if they found other Kuykendalls in the country.

The European vendors included the guitars of Adrian Farmer, Rienk Janssen and his Strictly Country Records, the Country Gazette magazine from Holland (named after the American band of the same name) Paolo Dettwiler's Bluegrass Europe magazine from Switwerland which is now in its second issue, Hans Korff, a record vendor from Holland, Gerrit van Bergeijt of Holland with his handmade guitars, and Sully Sullivan displaying some beautiful Ome banjos.

One item of irritance to the festival promoters was the hotel's policy of only allowing food and drink on the premises if they sold it to us. We in the booth area, for instance, were not permitted to give away chocolates or snacks to our customers. English luthier Adrian Farmer had a nice pot of English tea going in his booth until the hotel staff came in the night and lifted it from his area: And his English chocolates were taken, too

The hotel told the EWoB staff that the items would be returned at the end of the festival. As for myself, I bought a bottle of apple juice and as I was taking a drink, the waiter waived a scolding finger at me as if to say, "Shame on you." I suppose other venues don't allow food at the booth either, but I'll bet no host hotel at American festivals would take our snacks from us.

If the hotel in Lichtenvoorde is typical of other European accommodations-and I don't know if it is because we only stayed in this hotel and one bed and breakfast place-the pillows are too small, the beds are too soft, the walls and floors too thin. Any voices in one room can be clearly heard in adjoining rooms and even down the hall.

While the weather during the first week of our visit was clear and warm all over Europe, the last week we were there was more typical of this season: cool, overcast skies with occasional rain.

After the festival and the Trade Show were over on Sunday afternoon, we all packed up our stuff and went our separate ways. Our little book business venture must have been successful because we sold everything we brought.

Carel van Melis, of Strictly Country Agency, and I stopped for a quick bite at De Schilder before we were to leave. The pub owners, we found, had bought our Rural Rhythm CDs and were playing them. It is now probably the only place in Holland which features the music of Raymond Fairchild, Buck Ryan, Don Reno, Red Smiley, Hylo Brown and Mac Wiseman. I'm certainly proud we could leave that bluegrass legacy behind us, if only in a small way.

One of the highlights of my trip was meeting the Czech band Sunny Side. They honored our booth immensely by playing a few tunes right next to it. I felt like a proud father whose first child had just been born. They played wonderfully. They'd play a tune then a band on the otherside of the room would play one, and it went back and forth awhile. Great entertainment! Thank you, Sunny Side.

Jan and I dined with the show's headliners (Amy Gallatin and Stillwaters from Connecticut) along with Strictly Country Records' Rienk Janssen and Pieter Groenveld. We then followed Rienk to his home in northern Holland where we spent the night. Rienk has a mail-order business with nearly every country record one can imagine. He has thousands of items of various collectability. He also has SCR operations in the USA and Australia.

After a restful night, we continued our role as tourists by traveling back toward "home" in Zoersel. Our route took us over the huge dike in the north of Holland which keeps the North Sea out of much of the below-sea-level portions. The dike allows 40% of the entire country to be cultivated and populated. The huge windmills, for which Holland is so famous, are used for both the pumping of water and the grinding of grain. Even though this country is one of the most populous in the world, the open field and canals which span the country make it seem less crowded than it really is.

During a stop at the village of Volendam, we grabbed some sandwich fixin's, some wine and sat near the pier where the local fishing vessels came in to unload their daily catch and have it weighed for resale. The seagulls, ducks, storks (herons?) and wrens gathered around us to catch our scraps. They didn't get much; the fresh French bread and cheese are so-o-o good.

We spent a day in Paris playing tourist and testing the local vittles. I really can't recommend the French hot dog but I can vividly remember the other simple hot and cold sandwiches which were so fresh and flavorful. There are dozens of little ethnic restaurants and antique stores just a stone's throw from Notre Dame in the center of the city along the Seine River. Great window shopping at the incredible antiques stores.

Paris is different than I remember it back in 1972 when I was stationed in England and went over to tour on my motorcycle; it's cleaner now. They evidently cleaned up a lot of the pollution and many of the dirty buildings which go along with it. Sand-blasting helped a lot, I'm told.

A quick note on getting around by car in Europe. It's different than in America. Americans can follow a road number or two to get to their destination. In Europe, you must have a good map which directs you from city to city. without a map in Europe, getting around would be nearly impossible for the newcomer. And having a co-pilot giving these directions to the driver helps a lot, too. Knowing the rightof-way rules and speed limit rules should be mandatory before you drive in Europe. They're different than in America. No right turn on red, for example.

We flew home to Colorado after nearly two weeks of sightseeing, bluegrass music and touristing. The memories are indelible, the stories juicy and we truly loved our experience of getting to know our new family in Europe. The vacation was a richly rewarding new experience which now gives me a fondness of the European people who spread bluegrass music throughout their land. Perhaps we Americans can benefit by knowing the tremendous amount of effort exhibited by European bluegrass bands, some of whom don't even speak English and therefore don't know the meaning of the

words they sing. Is it possible, even though bluegrass was "invented" in the U.S., that the appeal of this music and its ability to span the borders of time and nationalities makes it one of the truly great musical forms? I think so.

Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Music?

California Bluegrass Association or CBA

Member Sponsored Jams Alameda - Thin Man Strings, 1506 Webster Streeet, Alameda, CA. Acoustic jam session every Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. For information,

call (510) 521-2613.

· Bakersfield - Eric Janson home, 1530 Camino Sierra, Bakersfield, CA. Jam 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m. For further information, call (805) 872-5137.

Copperopolis - Bluegrass jam the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month 7 p.m. until? at the Old Corner Saloon, 1/2 Mile off Hwy 4 on Main Street in Copporopolis, California. Sponsored by Fred and Melinda Stanley. For more information, call (209) 785-2544.

• Garberville - Bluegrass jam 1st Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at Sicilito's Restaurant, 445 Conger Street in Garberville. For further information, call Ron Stanley at

(707) 923-2603.

- Fair Oaks Monthly gospel jams, the First Saturday of the month from 6-10 p.m. at Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane, Fair Oaks, CA. For information or directions, call Bob Thomas at call Sacramento Area **CBA Vice President Bob Thomas** at (916) 989-0993.
- · Livermore Bluegrass Jam Session every 2nd Saturday, 7 - 10 p.m. at Magoo's Pizza, 364 South Livermore Ave., in Livermore, California. Directions: take Livermore exit off I-580, cross 1st street on left between 3rd and 4th Streets. For information please call (510) 447-2406.

· Livermore - Bluegrass Jam Session every 3rd Sunday, 1-4 p.m. at The Virtues of Coffee, 1819 Holmes (Hwy 84), Livermore, CA. Call (510) 447-2406 for information and directions

· Mountain Ranch — Bluegrass and Acoustic Country music Jam every 4th Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Country Lantern Cafe, 7858 Mountain Ranch Road in Mountain Ranch, CA. For information, call 209-754-5435.

 Napa—"Bluegrass and Fiddle Jam Session every Thursday night from 7:30pm to 10:30pm in Napa. Call Jerry at (707) 226-3084."

- Orangevale Weekly Bluegrass jams, every Wednesday from 7-10:30 p.m. at the Country Table Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. Periodically features Bluegrass band performances. For further information, call Sacramento Area CBA Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993
- Pollock Pines Jam session the first Tuesday evening of the month at Mountain High Music, 3050 Sly Park Rd., Pollock Pines, hosts a jam at the store from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Call them at (916)

647-2460 for more information. You can now shop Mt. High Music by pointing your web browser http:// www.mountainhighmusic.com

or email you questions to mtnhigh@cwnet.com.

• Porterville — Bluegrass Jams 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Golden Hills Mobile Home Park Recreation Center, 720 E. Worth Ave. In Porterville. For information or directions, call Don Millwee at (209) 784-6206.

 Sacramento Area — Monthly Bluegrass jam sessions hosted by the Sacramento Area CBA. Locations and times vary. For further information, call Sacramento Area Activities Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.

· Williams - VFW Hall, Corner of 9th & C Streets, 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call William (Bill) Herron (707) 995-1412 for details.

Woodland - Old Time Fiddling Jam at the County Fair Mall, 1264 East Gibson Road, Woodland, CA, first Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m. For more information, call Gloria Bremer at (916) 662-7908 or Ferrel McGrath at (916) 421-7417.

California Old-time **Fiddlers Association**

• Bella Vista - District #6 California State Old Time Fiddlers Jam to Bella Vista School Multipurpose room the 1st Sunday of each month 1-4PM. Bella Vista is a small town near Redding, California. Call 530-223-6618 for further information.

Castro Valley - United Methodist Church at 19806 Wisteria Avenue in Castro Valley, California, 4th Sunday of every month from 1:30 to 5 p.m. For further information or directions, please call Suzanne Klein at (510) 527-2538.

El Cajon - Wells Park Center, 1153 Madison, El Cajon, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Omer Green at (619) 748-3493 for details.

- Fresno Senior Citizen's Village Community Room, 1917S. Chestnut Ave., every Saturday Dance, 7:30-11:00 p.m. Call Margarette Smith at (209) 924-2034 for de-
- Fullerton 1414 Brookhurst Rd., Fullerton, CA 1st Sunday 1-4 p.m. Call Mike Beckett at (619) 373-4096 for details.
- Merced Colony Grange Hall, 2277 Child's Avenue, Merced, CA. 2nd Saturday 7-11 p.m. For information, call Royce Lancaster at (209) 291-4875.
- Oak View Oak View Commuity Center, 18 Valley Rd., Oak View, CA. 2nd & 4th Sunday 12-4 p.m. For information, call Margaret Kirchner at (805) 646-3100.
- Oildale- Rasmussen Senior Citizen's Center, 115 E. Roberts

Lane in Oildale, CA. 2nd and 4th Sunday, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Call for details.

- Orangevale Orangevale Grange Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For information, call Vivian Steele (916) 676-0825.
- (916) 589-4844.

Drive, 1st Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Bob Burger at (916) 549-4524 for

· Williams - Veteran's Memorial Hall, 9th & C St., Williams, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5p.m. For information, call Bill Herron at (530) 528-

Music Store With Regular Jams/Concerts

- Berkeley The Fifth String Music Store, 3051 Adeline, Berkeley, CA. Jam session every Thursday beginning at 8 p.m. For information or directions, call (510) 548-
- Bakersfield Buskers Music, 630 18th Street, Bakersfield, CA. Bluegrass jam 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m. and every Saturday from 2 p.m. until ?. Sponsored by the Mid-State Bluegrass Associaiton. For information, call (805) 633-1913 or (805) 872-
- Canoga Park Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor, 20246 Saticoy, Canoga Park. Instruments, repair and setup, Cds, tapes and records, books and videos, accessories. Lessons on fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo and more. Regularly scheduled jam sessions - call in advance for dates and times (818) 700-8288.
- Laguna Niguel Acoustic Jam session 4th Friday of every month from 7-11 p.m. at Shade Tree Stringed Instruments, 28062-D Forbes Rd., Laguna Niguel, CA. For information, call 714-364-
- · Leucadia Jam Till You Drop, first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. at Traditional Music, 1410 N. Hwy 101, Leucadia. For information, call (619) 942-1622.
- Mariposa Cousin Jack Pickin' Popcorn Music Jam at Cousin lack's Store, 5026 Hwy 140, Mariposa, California. 1st Saturday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. For further information, please call (209) 966-6271.
- · Pasadena Traditional Music Store -Bluegrass and Old Time Jam the 1st Saturday of every month from 2-5 p.m. Regularly scheduled workshops offered. Location is 228 El Molino Ave., Pasadena, CA. For further information, call (818) 577-4888.(408) 377-2613.

Doyn Simpson (805) 833-2594 Hall, 5807 Walnut Avenue, 2nd

Oroville - Monday Club, 2385 Montgomery Blvd, 4th Sunday each month 1-4:30 p.m. For information, call Bob Hedrick at

· Shasta - New School, Red Bluff further information.

 Sacramento — The Acoustic Shop 5362 H Street in Sacramento. Jam session every Thursday night from 7:30 - 11 p.m. with free hot dogs and sodas. New and used

instruments, CDs, tapes, books, lessons, repairs and more. For information or directions, call (916) 737-8336.

Sacramento-The New Fifth String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd. At J Street in Sacramento. Bluegrass Jam every Thursday at 7:30p.m. New and used instruments, CDs, tapes, books, videos, lessons, workshops, repairs and more. For information, call (916) 452-8282.

Independent Clubs -California

• Arroyo Grande - The Central Coast Fiddlers hold jam sessions twice a month, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, 2nd Sunday of the month in Arroyo Grande, CA (between Santa Maria and San Luis Obispo) at the Portuguese Hall; 4th Sunday of the month at the Nipomo Senior Citizens' Center (between Arroyo Grande and Santa Maria). Call for details or directions: (805) 349-2274, days or (805) 929-6071, eves.

Berkeley-Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. Occasional Bluegrass jams. Call (510) 548-1761 for details or to get on their

mailing list.

· Carlsbad - North County Bluegrass Band monthly meetings, 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. That Pizza Place, 2622 El Camino Real, Carlsbad. Phone 434-3171 for more infor-

- Centerville Bluegrass Jam Sessions the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month, 7 - 11 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall in Centerville, CA (in the Fresno area). Sponsored by the Kings River Bluegrass Association. For information and directions, please call Mike McDonald at (209) 434-6163 or Terry Tilley at (209) 875-6543.
- Ceres Central California Old-Time Fiddlers Assn., Walter White School, 1st and 3rd Fridays 6-10 p.m. Call Bill Whitfield at (209)

892-8685 for details.

- Coloma at the Vinyard House, 530 Cold Springs Road, Coloma, CA. Bluegrass and Old time Music Jam every Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. For information call Todd Saunders at (916) 626-
- · Covina · Open Mike Night · 1st Saturday of each month at the Fret House. Call (818) 915-2023 for information.
- · Exeter Bluegrass Jam Session at the VIP Pizza, 449 E. Pine St., (2 blocks south of Hwy 198 on Hwy 65, then 2 blocks west to Pine Street), Exeter, California. Meeting at 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month. For more information, call Pat Conway at (209) 561-4309 or Geroge Beckett (2109) 784-5286.
- Fiddletown Old Tyme Live Music Jam every Sunday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Fiddletown General Store on Main Street in Fiddletown, California. (Off Hwy 49 between Jackson and Placerville). Musicians and listeners welcome. For further information or directions, call Oluf Olufson at (209) 245-3671.
- Fresno Fresno Folklore Society, P.O. Box 4617, Fresno, CA 93744-4617. Monthly potluck and jam. For further information, call Nancy Waidtlow at (209) 224-1738 at (209) 431-3653 or Newsletter Editor Carl Johnson, phone (209) 229-8808.
- · Lake Isabella · Bluegrass jam the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7-10 p.m. at 5405 Lake Isabella Blvd. Sponsored by the Mid-State Bluegrass Association. For information, call Paul Ash at (619) 379-3189.
- Lompoc Acoustic jam session, 7-10 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Southside Coffee Company, 105 South H St., Lompoc, CA (Telephone (805) 737-3730.) For further information, contact Bill Carlsen (805) 736-8241, or email Charlie Bockius via e-mail at: <cbockius@sbceo.k12.ca.us>
- · Long Beach, Papas Western BBQ & Saloon, 5305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. (corner of PCH & Anaheim St.) (562) 597-4212. Featured

Page 26 - Bluegrass Breakdown, November, 1998

Bluegrass on the Internet...

Associations

Bluegrass Connection — www.go tech.com/

Bluegrass Northwest (non-profit bimonthly newsletter); Home Page: http://www.geocities.com/Nashville/Opry/5933/index.html (This home page has several more pages connected to it). E-mail address is: <sjbickle @everett.com>

California Bluegrass Association www.mandolyn.com/cba3.html Colorado Bluegrass Music Society — www.banjo.com/CBMA/index .htm

The Country Western Music Association from Washington state — http://members.aol.com/AGW1886/bluegrassnw.htm

Desert Bluegrass Association www.azstarnet.com.public/nonprofit/bluegrass/dbahome.htm

Fresno Folklore Society—folk music and dance with occasional Bluegrass concerts. E-mail:

©csufresno.edu>; website <www.csufresno.edu/cvip/~cki12/>

International Bluegrass Music As-

sociation—www.ibma.org/IBMA International Bluegrass Music Museum—www.ibmm.org/IBMM

inTUNE: Southern California Bluegrass News (Bluegrass Association of Southern California and San Diego Bluegrass Club) http://members.aol.com/ intunenews/ and inTUNEnews @aol.com

The Kentucky Friends of Bluegrass

Music Club — http://chapel1.com/kfobg

Mid-State Bluegrass Association www.mandolyn.com

Oregon Bluegrass Association — www.aracnet.com ~ obagrass/ OBA's Bluegrass at the Beach can be found at the same website and click on Bluegrass at the Beach Redwood Bluegrass Associates —

www.rba.org/

Rosine Association — www.gotech. com/rosine/homepg.htm

San Diego Bluegrass Club — http://members.aol.com/intunenews/; E-mail: SDBCnews@aol.com A non-profit organization promoting bluegrass music in San Diego county since 1972.

Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society www.infopoint.com/orga/scbs/ index.html

Southwest Bluegrass Association www.swba.com

Washington Bluegrass Association — www.scn.org/arts/wba/

Where Can I Go to Hear/Play...

(From Previous Page) bluegrass band performs on Sunday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- Manteca Delta Old Time Fiddlers and Bluegrass Association, 1stand 3rd Saturdays 6:30-10:30, at the Manteca Senior Center, 295 Cherry, Manteca, CA. Call Larry Burttram (209) 823-7190 for details.
- Nevada City Weekly Jam On Thursday evenings in Nevada City there will be a bluegrass jam at the Rainbow Market at 230 Woodpecker Lane. Call Wayne Rutherford at 478-9502 for more information.
- Oakland Bluegrass jam every Monday from 8-11 p.m. at the Baja Taqueria, 4070 Piedmont Ave. (near 41st Street), Oakland, CA. Phone (510) 547-BAJA. For further information call Joe Howton (510) 843-8552.
- Palo Alto Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society Jam session the 3rd Sunday of every month from 1 to 5 p.m. at St. Michael's Art Cafe, 804 Emerson Street in Palo Alto.
- Poway San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club Jam Session the last Wednesday night of each month at Mikey's Coffee House, 12222 Poway Road in Poway, CA. For updated information or a time slot, call (619) 486-5540 or 596-2962/
- Rialto Jam 4th Sunday of every month at the C&A Barn, 916 S.
 Riverside Ave, Rialto, CA. 10 a.m. until late afternoon. For information call (714) 874-0550 or (714) 874-4771.
- Riverside Sunday folk and bluegrass concerts at The Barn at the UC, Riverside. For information call (714) 682-3621.
- San Diego San Diego Bluegrass
 Clubevents Featured band plus
 open mike and jamming on the
 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30
 - 10 p.m. at the Carlton Oaks
 Country Club Crest Room, 9200
 Inwood Dr. in Santee. Open Mike
 and Jam on the 3rd Tuesday of
 each month, 7-10 p.m. at
 Fuddruckers Restaurant, 340
 Third St., in Chula Vista. Bluegrass Workshops on the 2nd Sat-

urday of every month, call for time, topic and location. All events are free! Call (619) 286-1836.

- San Diego Walt's Slow Jam, first Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m.;
 San Carlos Recreation Center, 6445 Lake Badin Avd., San Diego. Call Walt Richards (619) 280-9035 for information.
- San Jose Santa Clara Valley Fiddler's Association jam session, 1st Sunday of every month, 2 5:30 p.m., at the John Muir Middle School, 1260 Branham Lane (near the Almaden Expressway) in San Jose. All acoustic musicians welcome. For further information, contact Ken Jones, 191 Lichi Grove Ct., San Jose, Ca 95123-1751.
- San Jose Gospel Bluegrass Jam, Monday nights 7-9:30 p.m. at the St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Ave., San Jose, CA. Call Ken Jones, (408) 281-2229 or (408) 354-8097 for more information.
- Sonoma · Murphy's Irish Pub on the east side of the square in downtown Sonoma, California. Acoustic Jam Session 1st Sunday of the month 4 p.m. to? Acoustic Songwriters' Night the 3rd Sunday of each month from 4:00 p.m. Live acoustic music Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Sonoma Mountain Band plays Bluegrass on the first Friday of every month, 8-10pm. For further information, call (707) 935-0660.
- Whittier 2 jams a month on Sundays. Parnell Park, corner of Lambert & Scott, Whittier, \$2 donation. Call (818) 917-0973 for information.
- Woodland Hills Songmakers, a non-profit organization devoted to "the enjoyment and support of traditional and contemporary folk and other forms of homemade and acoustic music. For information about "hoots" in various Southen California locations and membership information write to Kay Conroy, Songmakers, 22707 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91387.

Bands and Musicians

BanjerDan — For all your banjerpickin' needs, workshops, solo performances, hot pick-up bands, an acoustic utility sideman, etc., website: http://www.mazart.com, e-mail: emazart@mazart.com

Blue Northern Bluegrass Band & Music Bookstore — <www.shasta.com/bluenorthern>. We have teamed up with one of the most trusted book sellers in the world to offer a nice selection of bluegrass and acoustic music books online. Visitors to our website can browse and enjoy deep discounts on hundreds of titles. We have included a link to the CBA site and a few others like Allen Guitars etc.

Dix Bruce and Jim Nunally: Grammy award winning acoustic flatpick guitarists who perform and teach traditional American, bluegrass, folk, and country music. Website: < www.ejthomas.com/bruce-nunally>

Compost Mountain Boys www.humboldt.edu/~manetas m/compost

J.D Crowe And The New South: http://www.rhrun.com/jdcrowe

Dark Hollow Bluegrass Band — http://www.webbnet.com/ ~Mandolin/dkhollow>. Covers Dark Hollow Bluegrass as well as other local San Francisco bands and events.



Doodoo Wah—www.colorado.net/ picklehead/doodoowah

Due West — California based bluegrass band of award winning musicians who add a touch of Bakersfield to traditional bluegrass and acoustic country music. Check out their premiere album with Grammy Award winner and Dobro Player of The Year: Rob Ickes. Website: <www.ejthomas .com/duewest>

Grass Menagerie – www.research. digital.com/wrl/projects/misc/ Grass Menager

High Hills — http://home.pacbel l.net/highhill

Hwy 52 — http://members.aol.com/ hwy52/

Northern Lights — http://www. super-charged.com/nlights

No Strings Attached — http://www. SwiftSite.com/nostringsattached Red Dirt Bullies — www.aracnet. com/-obagrass/reddirtb.html.

Pagosa Hot Strings — website <www.webpan.com/pagosa hotstrings>; e-mail: skigrass@ compuserve.com

Phil Salazar — www.west.net/ ~psalazar

Sidesaddle & Co. — < www,cruzio. com/~gpa/sidesaddle/ index.htm> or e-mail: < sidesaddle 99@yahoo.com>.

Ricky Skaggs — www.skaggsfamily records.com/

Sourdough Slim — www.twc.online. com/custom/sourdoughslim

Ralph Stanley — www.members. aol.com/rstanleyfc/ralph stanley.html

The Tylers — www.doitnow.com/
~tylers

Scott Vestal — Scott Vestal's Stealth Banjo http://www.stealth banjo.com>

Frank Wakefield — performance at the 1998 Mariposa Goldrush Bluegrass Festival, as well as information and upcoming gigs http://home.earthlink.net/ ~ phototom/Mariposa frank.htm>

New Frank Wakefield page — http://www.mossware.com/wakefield/>

Bluegrass Pages and Links
The Bluegrass Telegraph — on-line
Bluegrass magazine < www.blue

grasstelegraph.com>
Alan Bond — http://www.web

bnet.com/~Mandolin>
Pat Cloud Home Page — www.
cloudbanjo.com

Cybergrass — http://www.banjo .com/

Festival Finder—ww.festivalfinder. com.fest.home.html

Gospel Song Website — http:// subnet.virtual-pc.com/da567664/

KMUD, Garberville 91.1 FM — Listeners can now hear "The Bluegrass Show with Ron Stanley" 10 to noon Tuesdays on the world wide web at < www.kmud.org >, then follow link.

KPIG, Watsonville 107.5 FM — Real audio and video 24-hours a day since 1996 at < www.kpig. com>; e-mail: < sty@kpig. com>. Cuzin Al's Bluegrass show Sunday nights from 6-9 p.m. Doc Hamilton Bluegrass Page —

Doc Hamilton Bluegrass Page www.ccwf.cc.utexas.edu/ ~docham

Phil Leadbetter: http://www.rhrun.com/uncle

Mariposa Goldrush Bluegrass Festival — http://home.earthlink.net/~phototom/Festival.htm; another site has photos of Frank Wakefield's performance at the 1998 Mariposa Festival—http://home.earthlink.net/~phototom/Mariposa frank.htm>

Planet Bluegrass — http://
www.Planet@bluegrass.com,
the home page for producers of
the Telluride Bluegrass Festival,
The Rocky Mountain Bluegrass
Festival, and the Folks Festival,
plus various other traditional and
contemporary acoustic events
throughout the year. Page provides links to all these events and
include The Bluegrass Academy
and Workshops, band and instrumental contest information, merchandise, and other relevant
links.

Ron Rose — PWI.Netcom.com/ ~gittar/bluegrass.html

The Bluegrass Music Page — www.best.com/~kquick/bg.html

Luthiers

Allen Guitars — http://www.allen guitar.com, "Building Tomor-(Continued on Page 28)

November, 1998 - Bluegrass Breakdown - Page 27

Blueggrass on The Places to Find Live Acoustic Music Internnet..

(Continenued from Page 27) row's Cofollectable Instruments Today", I E-mail: allen@allen guitar.comm

Gary H. Pri²rice, Luthier — http:// www.teleplepath.com/ghprice, Mandolins, B. Banjos and Tailpieces. Lots of linlinks to other Bluegrass and acousustic music sites.

Recording It King Banjos — www. recordinghgking.com

Stringed InInstrument Division — http://wwww.montana.com/instruments. Of Dffering the finest in new and handidmade instruments. For a catalog, E, E-mail < sid@montana.com>

Taylor Guiuitars: <www.taylor guitars.cocom>

N Magazines

Banjo News Is Letter — www.tiac.net/ users/bnl/

Bluegrass Now—<www.bluegrass

Bluegrass Unlimited — www.blue grassmusissic.com

Music-r-related Products

AcuTab — LeLessons By Mail http://www.acacutab.com/Lessons.html>

Pine Valley ly Music — publishers of "America'sa's Music: BLUEGRASS"; website: < < http://www.pinevalley music.comm>

Bluegrass s Radio Network — www.blueuegrassradio.com/

Homespun Tapes — http:// www.homespuntapes.com

Mel Bay — http://www.melbay.com or e-mail: @melbay.com

Mountain Arts Music School www.netshop.net/~100mile/ mtn_arts or email: mtnarts @netshop.net

Music-related Services

ASCAP — www.ascap.com/ BMI — www.bmi.com/

Record Companies and Sales

Copper Creek Records — http://www.coppercreekrec.com; E-mail: CopCrk@aol.com
County Record Sales —

www.countysales.com Doobie Shea Records — www.

doobieshea.com
Elderly Instruments — http://

www.elderly.com
Freeland Recording Co.—web site:
<www.crfrc.com> and e-mail:
<crfrc@aol.com> (Charles R.

Freeland)
Hay Holler Records — hayhollr
@nrv.net

Pinecastle/Webco Records — http://pinecastle.com

Rebel Records — www.rebel records.com

Rounder Records — www.rounder .com

Sierra Records — www.sierrarecords.com • The Acoustic Shop and Music School, 5362 H Street, Sacramento, (916) 737-8336 or visit their web site www.acoustic shop.com. Jam session every Thursday begining at 7:30 p.m with free hot dogs and sodas.. House concerts scheduled

 Blackwater Cafe, 912 N. Yosemite, Stockton, CA. Call (209) 943-9330 for information.

details.

throughout the year - call for

Castle Folk Club, 100 Connecticut St., San Francisco, CA., (510) 531-0339.

 Cold Spring Tavern, Stagecoach Road (just off State Highway 154)
 15 minutes from either Santa Barbara or Santa Ynez, CA. For information or directions, call (805)
 967-0066. The Cache Valley Drifters perform every Wednesday from 7 - 10 p.m.

• Country Table Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. Weekly Bluegrass jam session every Wednesday 7-10:30 p.m. at the Country Table Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. Periodically features Bluegrass band performances. For further information, call Sacramento Area CBA Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.

Cuppa Joe's, 194 Castro St., Mountain View, CA. For more information, call (415) 967-2294.

 Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley. Call (510) 548-1761 for information. November 21 - Norton Buffalo & His Acoustic Knockouts: November 22 - Trout Fishing in America (evening show and special 4 p.m. kid's show); November 24 - Suzanne Thomas, Don Ribsby & friends; November 27 & 28 - Laurie Lewis & Friends; December 12 - Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin; December 13 - Radim Zenkl; December 16-The Crooked Jades and David Thom Band; December 22 -Freight Winter Holiday Revue; December 31 - New Year's Eve Bluegrass Bash with High Country plus Jones and Leva; January 22 - Austin Lounge Lizards; February 10-12 - Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys;

 Great American Music Hall, 859
 O'Farrell, San Francisco, CA, (415) 885-0750.

 La Di Da Cafe & Gallery, Kelly and Purissima, Half Moon Bay, CA (415) 726-1779.

• Maytan Music Center & Coffee House, 777 South Center St., Reno, NV 89501, (702) 323-5443. November 4—Ed Gerhard (modern fingerstyle guitarist) 7 p.m.; November 10 - Gordy the Banjologist, 7 p.m.; November 14 - Chris Proctor (modern solo guitar), 7 p.m.; November 16 -

Judith Edelmann Band, with Matt Flinner (Newgrass), 7 p.m.; November 21 - David Grier (flatpick guitarist), 7 p.m.; (all at the Store Creek Coffee House) tickets are \$12 per person per concert;

 McCabe's Guitar Shop, 3101 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA. For information call (213) 828-4403 or tickets (213) 828-4497.

• Merry Prankster Cafe, Hwy. 84, La Honda, CA, phone: 650-747-0660, website: < w w w . s c r u z n e t . c o m / ~prankstr/>. Bluegrass every Sunday afternoon followed by

• Michelangelo's Pizza Parlor, downtown Arcata, California. Live acoustic music every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night from 7-9 p.m., no cover charge. Bluegrass music on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday with Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party. Other music includes Irish, Country, Dixieland, and Folk. For information, call (707) 822-7602.

 Miner's Foundry Cultural Center, 325 Spring Street, Nevada City, CA. For information, call (916) 265-5040.

Murphy's Irish Pub, on the east side of the square in downtown Sonoma, California. Acoustic jam session (Celtic primarily) 1st Sunday of the month from 6 PM until it's over. Live acoustic music Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. For further information call 707-935-0660. "Sonoma Mountain Band plays Bluegrass on the first Friday of every month, 8-10pm.

Musician's Coffeehouse, Mt. Diablo Unitarian-Universal Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA. For information call (510) 229-2710.

 The Neighborhood Church, in Pasadena, California. For information, call (818) 303-7014.

• The New 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra at J Street, Sacramento, CA. For information, call (916) 442-8282. Bluegrass Jam Session every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. House Concert Series Performances times and prices vary - call for information.

 Old San Francisco Pizza Company
 2325 Road 20 in the El Portal Shopping Center, San Pablo, CA. Phone (510) 232-9644.

 The Palms, 726 Drummond Ave., Davis, CA 95616. For information and tickets, call (916) 756-9901.

 Plowshares, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna, San Francisco, CA 94123. For information call (415) 441-8910.

 Positively Front Street, 44 Front Street, Santa Cruz, CA. Bluegrass music every Friday at 8 p.m. For information or directions, call 408-426-1944. Radio Valencia Cafe, 1199 Valencia at 23rd Streets, San Francisco, CA. Bluegrass and Old-time music every Sunday 7-11 p.m. Dark Hollow, traditional Bluegrass band performs the 3rd Sunday every month, 7-11 p.m.

Sam's BBQ, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA; phone: 408-297-9151. Every Tuesday 6-9 p.m. music from the 20's, 30's and 40's by Moonglow (Beth McNamara and Jerry Ashford).

 Shade Tree Presents, Shade Tree Stringed Instruments, 28062 Forbes Rd., Laguna Niguel, CA. Instruments, accessories, lessons, CDs, tapes, books, videos, concerts. For information and schedule of entertainers call (714) 364-5270.

Sicilito's Restaurant, 445 Conger Street, Garberville, CA. Bluegrass jam sessions first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. For further information, call Ron Stanley at (707) 923-2603.

Smokin' Johnnie's BBQ, 11720
 Ventura Blvd., Studio-City, CA.
 Phone 818-760-1623. 1St Satur-

day of every month Bluegrass and Swing Acoustic Music Showcase, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. sponsored by Traditional Music.

 Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call (415) 388-2820.

 The Willowbrook Ale House 3600 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma, CA, (707) 775-4232. Featuring the Crane Canyon Bluegrass Band every Thursday night, 6:30-10 p.m.



1998 Walnut Valley Festival contest winners announced

The 27th Annual Walnut Valley Festival, held each year in Winfield, Kansas recently announced the winners in the various instrumental contests held during the festival. Winners and their categories are:

International Autoharp Champsionship

1st Place Mike Herr
Beckley, WV
2nd Place Les Gustafson-Zook
Goshen, IN
3rd Place Tina Louise Barr
Modesto, CA

National Fingerpicking Guitar Championship

1st Place Michael Chapdelaine
Albuquerque, NM
2nd Place Brad Richter
Tucson, AZ
3rd Place Sam Pacetti
St. Augustine, FL

National Mountain Dulcimer Championship

1st Place Larry Conger
Parris, TN
2nd Place Steve Eulberg
Ft. Collins, CO
3rd Place Mark Tindel
Tulsa, OK

Walnut Valley Mandolin Championship

1st Place Bruce Graybill
Pleasant Hill, MO
2nd Place Kelly Lancaster
Houston, TX
3rd Place Adam Wright
Hawesville, KY

Walnut Valley Old-Time Fiddle Championship

1st Place Cathy Pearson
Russell, PA
2nd Place Jason Shaw
Lincoln, NE
3rd Place Susan Wong
Chimayo, NM

National Flat-Picking Guitar Championship

1st Place Cody Kilby
Cowan, TN
2nd Place Carl Miner
Medford, OR
3rd Place Robin Kessinger
St. Albans, WV

National Hammer Dulcimer Championship

Ist Place Mark Wadeinde
Marysville, OH
2nd Place Scott Evan Freeman
Lafayette, IN
3rd Place Thornton, CO

National Bluegrass Banjo Championship

Championship

1st Place Carl "Sonny" Smith
Sevierville, TN

2nd Place Barry Palmer
Cleveland, GA

3rd Place Cody Kilby
Cowan, TN

Congratulations to all of the winners. The contests took place from Thursday, September 17 to Sunday, September 20, 1998 in Winfield, Kansas.

For information about the Walnut Valley Association and their annual Festival and contests, call (316) 221-3250.

Upcoming Bluegrass, Old-Time & Gospel Music Events

NOVEMBER

- November 6 8 4th Annual Wings and Strings Music Festival in Polk City, Florida. Featuring: Asleep at the Wheel, Robert Earl Keen, Chesapeake, Del McCoury Band, Tony Rice, Peter Rowan, Thom Bresh, Kate MacKenzie, Austin Lounge Lizards, Freight Hoppers, Crucial Smith, Out of the Blue, and many more. Early bird tickets available until August 15th. For information or tickets, write to: Wings and Strings, P.O. Box 759, Polk City, FL33868; call 941-984-3500 X222; E-mail: mitch lind@ wingsandstrings.com; or visit their website at: http:// www.wingsandstrings.com>
- November 6-8 Florida's Withlacoochee River Bluegrass Jamboree in Dunnellon, Florida. Featuring: Ryan Holiday, the Osborne Brothers, Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys, The Lewis Family, Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, the Goins Brothers, Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers, Tim Graves & Cherokee, the Marksmen, Bluegrass Heritage, Rising Sun, Heaven's Echoes, and Pine Valley Bluegrass. For tickets or information, write to: Withlacoochee Bluegrass, P.O. Box 180, Dunnellon, FL 34430, or call (352) 489-8330.
- November 7 Dan Crary performs, with Sean & Sara Watkins opening at 7:30 pm. At San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas, CA. Call 760-436-4030 for information or to reserve seating. Sponsored by the San Diego Folk Heritage.
- November 7 & 8 Festival in Shoshone, CA (56 miles north of Baker and I-10, just east of Death Valley). Various performers and pickin' times during the day and bonfire pickin' parties all night. Combined with Shoshone Old West Days, celebrating '49er settlements; dutch Oven Cook-Off, BBQ, Period Costume & Mosey Contest, lots of good family fun and local history. Call Susan Sorrels (760) 852-4224, or Wyatt Troxel (909) 989-9933.
- November 10 Lost Highway and the Virtual Strangers perform, 7:30 to 10 pm, in the Crest Room of the Carlton Oaks Country Club, 9200 Inwood Dr., Santee, CA. The evening's performances will be recorded for a live CD project! Call Elizabeth at 619-286-1836.
- November 11 14 Steve Kaufman Workshops, Private Lessons & Concert presented by Brass, Reed & Guitar Shop, 10411 NE 4th Plain Blvd. #115, Vancouver, WA. Wednesday Alumni (Advanced) Flatpick

- Workshop, 7-9 p.m.; Thursday Private Lessons from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Mandolin Workshop from 7-9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday Two Day Flatpicking Workshop (various prices). For information, contact Suze or Don at (360) 254-9380.
- November 13 15 10th Annual Decatur, Illinois Greater Downstate Indoor Bluegrass Music Festival at the Holiday Inn Conference Hotel. Featuring: Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, the Del McCoury Band, the Osborne Brothers, Rarely Herd, Dry Branch Fire Squad, the Lonesome River Band, Larry Sparks, Jerry & Tammy Sullivan, the Stevens Sisters, the Sitze Family, the Shankman Twins, and the Churchmen. For tickets or information, call (217) 243-3159 or email: tilease@fgi.net.
- November 13 16 19th Annual Four Corner States Bluegrass Festival and Fiddle Championships, Wickenburg, Arizona. Features High Plains Tradition, The Tylers & Tippecanoe, The Hat Band, fiddle championships and other contests. For information, call 520-684-5479 or visit their website at: <www.wickenburg chamber.com>.
- November 14 Steve Kaufman in concert, 8 p.m. at the new McMenamins - St. Johns Pub in Historic St. Johns, Portland, Oregon. For information or tickets, call (503) 224-2621.
- November 14 & 15 The Big Apple Bluegrass Festival at The Baggot Inn, 82 W. Third St., New York City, NY. Featuring: the James King Band, Tony Trischka & Skyline, Vassar Clements, Bill Keith & Mark Patton, Burnt Toast, the John Herald Band, the Bob Grant Band, Second Wind, James Reaves & the Barnstormers, 2nd Edition, Maura McCabe, Tom Hanaway & Blue Horizon and Scrapple. There will also be a Sunday Fiddler's Convention featuring Kenny Kosek, Vassar Clements, Tony DeMarco and Jeff Wisoranda Bill Keith Banjo Workshop. For tickets or information, contact Mandolin Brothers, Ltd. At 718-981-8585; call Tom Hanway at 718-884-5721; or email: <bear@echonyc.com>
- November 20 Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby and Friends in Concert at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd. In Palo Alto, CA. Sponsored by the Redwood Bluegrass Associates and the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door. For tickets or information, call (650) 691-9982 or visit their website at http://www.rba.org/
- November 20 & 21 Advanced

- Banjo Techniques 2-day Clinic at the Congregational Church of Mercer Island, 4545 Island Crest Way, Mercer Island, Washington. Instructors are Tom Adams, teaching Scruggs Style Picking and Pete Schwimmer teaching Melodic and Single String Style Picking. Cost is \$85 per person. For information or registration, call Rod Johnston at Village Productions, (425) 222-6866, or write to P.O. Box 1089, Fall City, WA 98024.
- November 20 22 Tri State Bluegrass Association 17th Land of Mark Twain Bluegrass Music Festival at the Hannibal Inn in Hannibal, MO. Featuring: Bill Grant and Delia Bell, Second Exit, Karl Shiflett & Big Country, Silver Cloud Tradition, and the Blue & Gray Pickers. For information or tickets, contact Delbert Spray at 573-853-4344 or Oliver Smith at 309-876-2381.
- November 21 Suzanne Thomas, Don Rigsby & Friends in Concert, at Mesa Verde High School, 7600 Lauppe Lane, Citrus Heights, CA, 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. Ticket order form, ad and article in this issue. For further information, call Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.



NOVEMBER 26TH HAPPY THANKSGIVING

 November 26-28 — 29th Annual South Carolina State Bluegrass Festival at the Convention Center. Oak Street at 21st Avenue North in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Featuring: The Original Dillards, the Del McCoury Band, The Lewis Family, Longview, The Osborne Brothers, Lynn Morris Band, Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers, Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, Charlie Waller and the Country Gentlemen, Jim and Jesse and the Virginia Boys, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, Lonesome River Band, IIIrd Tyme Out, and many more. For tickets or information, contact Norman Adams or Tony Anderson, P.O. Box 98, Dahlonega, GA 30533 or phone 706-864-7203.

DECEMBER

• December 4 - A Winter Night's

- Yeow Concert by Doodoo Wah, Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals and The Foothillbillys, 8 p.m. at The Salt Mine in Lincoln, CA. Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.
- December 5 Kathy Kallick Band concert and bluegrass CD release party at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd. In Palo Alto, CA. Sponsored by the Redwood Bluegrass Associates and the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$16 at the door. For tickets or information, call (650) 691-9982 or visit their website at http://www.rba.org/
- December 5 Rincon Ramblers in concert, 7:30 p.m. at the Fresno ArtMuseum, 2233 N. First Street in Fresno, CA. Bluegrass and Folk performed by top-notch musicians Phil Salazar, Alan Thomhill, John Wilcox, Bill Flores and Danny Wilson. Admission is \$10 at the door; \$8 for FFS & FAM members. For further information, phone (209) 456-0453.
- December 8 Lighthouse and the Valley Bluegrass Boys perform, 7:30 to 10 pm, in the Crest Room of the Carlton Oaks Country Club, 9200 Inwood Dr., Santee, CA. The evening's performances will be recorded for a live CD project! Call Elizabeth at 619-286-1836.
- December 10 12 Christmas in the Smokies with The Larkin Family at the Grand Hotel and Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Featuring: The Larkin Family, Luke McKnight, the Osborne Brothers, Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, the Lewis Family, Jim & Jesse & the Virginia Boys, James Monroe, Eddie & Martha Adcock, the Reno Brothers, Raymond Fairchild, Randall Hylton, Bill Grant & Delia Bell, Keystone Bluegrass, Carroll County Ramblers, and the Bluegrass Muntaineers. For tickets or information, contact The Larkin Family, P.O. Box 350, Church Hill, TN 37642; phone (423) 357-6741 or (423) 357-7515; or visit their website at: < http:// www.svs.net/flash/larkin.htm>
- December 12—Greg Brown (prolific songwriter/singer) in concert at 8 p.m. in the Carson City Community Center, Carson City, Ne-



DECEMBER 14th

- vada. For tickets or information, call the Brewery Arts Center at (702) 883-1976.
- December 18 & 19 A Winter Night's Yeow Concert by Doodoo Wah, Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals and The Foothillbillys, 8 p.m. in the Sutter Creek Theatre, Sutter Creek, CA.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.

- December 29 January 2 Pete Wernick's Winter Basic Skills Banjo Camp in Boulder, Colorado. For information, write to: Dr. Banjo, 7930-F Oxford Road, Niwot, CO 80503.
- December 31 January 1 & 2 23rd Annual New Year's Bluegrass Festival at Jekyll Island, Georgia. Featuring: Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, Josh Graves & Kenny Baker, the Osborne Brothers, the Lewis Family, Charlie Waller and the Country Gentlemen, Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, the Village Singers, the Dry Branch Fire Squad, IIIrd Tyme Out, the Larry Stephenson Band, the James King Band, the Stevens Sisters, Bill Grant & Delia Bell, the Gary Waldrep Band, the Sitze Family, Raymond Fairchild and the Maggie Valley Boys, Daleann Bradley & Coon Creek, and the Goins Brothers. For tickets or information, call (706) 864-7203; or write to Narmal Adams or Tony Anderson, P.O. Box 98, Dahlonega, GA



HAPPY NEW YEAR 1999!

JANUARY

• January 2 — A Winter Night's Yeow Concert by Doodoo Wah, Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals and The Foothillbillys, 8 p.m. at The State Theatre in Modesto, CA. Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.

(Continued on Page 30)

Upcoming Bluegrass, Old-Time & Gospel Music Events

(Continued from Page 29)

- January 5-9 Pete Wernick's Winter Banjo Camp for Intermediate/Advanced Players in Boulder, Colorado. For information, write to: Dr. Banjo, 7930-F Oxford Road, Niwot, CO 80503.
- January 8 & 9 A Winter Night's Yeow Concert by Doodoo Wah, Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals and The Foothillbillys, 8 p.m. at Holman Foundry Playhouse in Sonora, CA. Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.
- January 12 Borderline and Slim Pickins perform, 7:30 to 10 pm in the Crest Room of the Carlton Oaks Country Club, 9200 Inwood Dr., Santee, CA. The evening's performances will be recorded for a live CD project! Call Elizabeth at 619-286-1836.
- January 15 & 16 A Winter Night's Yeow Concert by Doodoo Wah, Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals and The Foothillbillys, 8 p.m. at the Merced College Theatre in Merced, CA. Tickets \$12 advance

and \$15 at the door. For information or tickets, call (209) 533-4464.

• January 15-17—Colorado River Country Music Festival, Blythe, CA. Sponsored by Blythe Chamber of Commerce. Featuring: the Bluegrass Patriots, Country Current, Silverado, Pleasant Valley, String 'Em Up, Traditional Bluegrass, Colorado River Boys, High Plains Tradition and others, band and instrument contests and band scramble. For information, call 1-800-443-5513 or FAX 760-922-4010.



February 4 — the Dry Branch
Fire Squad performs, 8 pm at
the La Paloma Theatre, 471 S.
Coast Hwy (Hwy 101 at D. St.) in
Encinitas. Tickets are \$13 in advance and will be available in

December. Tickets at the door are \$15. Kids 12 & under half-price. Call La Paloma at 760-436-SHOW for theater information, call Elizabeth at 619-286-1836 for concert information.

- February 19 21 2nd Annual Bowie Bluegrass and Old Time Country Music Festival, Alaskan RV Park, Bowie, AZ. For Information, call 520-847-2218.
- February 19-21 Tri State Bluegrass Association 21st Annual Bluegrass Music Festival at the Hannibal Inn in Hannibal, MO. Featuring: Bob Lewis Family, Second Exit, Gold Wing Express, The Ezells and The Sand Mountain Boys. For information or tickets, contact Delbert Spray at 573-853-4344 or Oliver Smith at 309-876-2381.
- February 20 & 21 4th Annual Pioneer Bluegrass Days, Pioneer, AZ. Featuring Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, The Shady Creek Band, Out of The Blue, Goldrush, The Hillwallys, Front Page News (reunion), Contra Dances on Friday and Saturday, and a Saturday

Night BBQ show with The McNasry Brothers. Dry Camping, music workshops, kids activities and more. For information, call 602-842-1102; e-mail: <Theabma@aol.com>; or write to: Festival Coordinator, 8008 W. Tuckey Ln., Glendale, AZ 85303.

• February 25 - 28 - 6th Annual Wintergrass Bluegrass Festival, at the Tacoma Sheraton in Tacoma, WA. Featuring: Tony Rice & Peter Rowan, IIIrd Tyme Out, Chesapeake, Laurie Lewis with Tom Rozum & Todd Phillips, Dry Branch Fire Squad, J.D. Crowe & the New South, Bluegrass Etc., Laurel Canyon Ramblers, Cache Valley Drifters, Cornerstone, Sidesaddle & Co., Gibson Brothers, Danny Barnes, Buell Grass, The Paperboys, Dan Crary, and many more. For information, write to Wintergrass Bluegrass Music Festival, P.O. Box 2356, Tacoma, WA 98401-2356; call 253-926-4164 or e-mail: earla615@aol.com.

APRIL

• April 27-30 — Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camp at MerleFest, Wilkesboro, North Carolina (Monday-Thursday prior to the festival). For information, write to: Dr. Banjo, 7930-F Oxford Road, Niwot, CO 80503.

JUNE

• June 17-21 - CBA's 24th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Partial line-up includes: Mac Wiseman, The Osborne Brothers, Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys, IIIrd Tyme Out, The Sand Mountain Boys, Country Current - plus 10 additional bands and cloggers to be announced. Early Bird tickets now on sale through February 28, 1999. For information, call 209-293-1559; FAX 209-293-1220; e-mail: cbawpn@ volcano.net; or write to CBA Festival, P.O. Box 9, Wilseyville, CA 95257. For further ticket information, call David Runge at 707-762-8735, or see ad in this issue.

Harmonica Korner Especially for ... Beginners, Kids, Grandparents, Anyone

by Howard Polley Greetings!

In the last few Harmonica Korner articles we've talked about learning the C-scale on your harp, controlling your air stream to get single notes, holding the instrument and playing a little song. Also, we mentioned that as you move to the lower and upper octaves, a couple notes are missing.

This month's lesson will explain a little bit about how to recover those missing notes — in particular, the 4th and 6th scale degrees in the lower octave. (The missing note in the top octave will not be covered this time.)

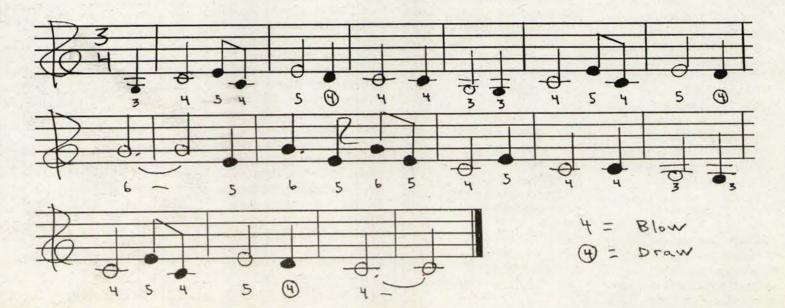
Bending is the name used for the technique of recovering these missing notes. Just what is bending? Perhaps the most prolific author on harmonica instruction today is Jon Gindick. He makes this comment about bending. Bending is "twisting the sound of the single note to make it lower than usual". In the case of the missing 4th and 6th scale degrees, this technique is done on draw notes. By altering your incoming air, you cause the reed to vibrate differently to lower the pitch of the regular note.

If you are just starting to learn the harmonica, you may not desire to start your bending practice at this time. No problem. There are many songs that can be played without bending notes. In fact, I would suggest that you concentrate your initial efforts on learning more songs. Practice controlling your single notes. This will keep you busy for quite a while. You'll learn bending in time.

One of the popular numbers played by harmonica players is the Gospel Song, "Amazing Grace". Here is the tablature and music for this selection. Thanks for your time and attention. Next time we'll give you one or two Christmas songs to work on. Keep practicing, keep playing and keep positive!

Editor's note: Readers with comments or questions for Howard Polley can write to bim at 1030 Cameron Way, Susanville, CA 96130-6054.





Turn Your Radio On ..

Monday

- 5-9 A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.
- 9:00-Noon "Monday Morning Folk" with J.T. Mason, KAZU FM
- 1-3 PM "Monday Afternoon Folk Show" with Steve Meadows, KUSP FM
- 1-4 PM "Arden's Garden" All the best in rock-n'-country, bluesabilly with Arden Eaton, KAZU FM.
- 2-3 PM "Backroads Country", (Oldtime country and Bluegrass Show) with Al Shusterman, KCBL FM (Cable Only)
- 6-9 PM "Bluegrass Attack", with hosts Cuzin' Al, and Cactus Jack, KKUP FM.
- 7-9 PM Folk Music Show on KHSU FM.
- 8-11 PM "Traditional County and American Roots Music" with Ben Elder, KCSN FM.

Tuesday

- 5-6 AM "A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.
- 6-9 AM "Mostly Bluegrass" (Bluegrass, Country, Swing and New Acoustic Music) with Cousin Chris, KZFR FM.
- 10 AM "The Bluegrass Show", with Ron Stanley, KMUD FM.
- 10 AM-1PM "Don't Panic (It's Just Us Folks)" - Lisa Atkinson. Folk.
- 9-11 AM "Toast & Jam" with Ellen Hering KZYX FM.
- 9-Noon "Rosewood Gates" with Angela Ren-nilson - Folk Music, KAZU FM.
- 10-2 PM "Barnyard Bluegrass", with Peggy O, KFJC FM
- 12:05-2 PM "Tuesday Folk Show", with Brooks Otis (Bluegrass, Blues, Western Swing, Old Jazz, Old Time String Band, Cajun and Country), KHSU FM
- 12-1:30 PM "Afternoon Folk Music" KHSU FM
- 2-4 PM "Toast and Jam" hosted by Fred Wooley and Ellen Herring, KZYX FM.
- 8-10 PM "Pickin' Up the Tempo" (progressive country & Folk) with Jerry Conway KCBX FM.

Wednesday

- 5-6 AM Topsoil "A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.

- 9-Noon "Out on the Dustry Trail" with Mike McKinley, KAZU FM.
- Noon 1:30 PM Bluegrass show with Don Wolski on KHSU FM.
- Noon 3 PM "Fat Farm", invoking the aural image of KFAT, KHIP and KPIG. with Mary McCaslin, KZSC FM.
- 3-5:30 PM "American Pastimes", folk, bluegrass, country rock with Erik Mathesen, KZFR-FM
- 4-7 PM "Music Magazine" good ol' tunes from the heartland, Mark Stancart or Bodie Wagner and Che Grenwood, KVMR FM
- 7-10 PM "Connections" with Johnny Bazzano, KRCB FM.
- 8-10 PM "Celtic Cadence" with Anne Hestbeck or "Here, There and Everywhere" (3rd Wed.) with Don Jacobson or John Nichols (5th Wed.), KVMR FM.

Thursday

- 5-6 AM "A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.
- 7-10 AM "New Wood" with Peter Schwartz. American, Celtic, and bluegrass. Find your roots on KKUP FM
- 12-1:30 PM Bluegrass with Susan Firor, KHSU FM
- 1-2 PM "Out on the Dusty Trail" with Suzanne Dobkin, Bluegrass, Country, Gospel and Cajun; KAZU FM
- 1-4 PM "Folk Plus" with hosts Karen Dyer and Bruce Doan, KVMR FM.
- 2-4 PM "Mountain Stage" with Larry Groce — Bluegrass, Country, Gospel, Cajun, Jazz, Folk, Blues, etc. KAZU FM.
- 3-6 PM Folk and Bluegrass Show with Julie McDonald, KDVS FM.
- 4-7 PM "Music Magazine" with California Oakie on KVMR FM.
- 7-10 PM "The Just Jean Radio Show" with Jean Philben. Country, bluegrass, folk and live music on KKUP FM.
- 8-10 PM "Basically Bluegrass" with Duane Inglish and Bruce Bernard, KCBX FM.
- 10-Midnight "Bayou Country" (Cajun and Zydeco) with Steve Nicola, KVMR FM.

Friday

- 5-6 AM "A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.
- 6-9 AM "The Bushwacker's Bluegrass Club" with Dangerous Dan and Friends, KZSC FM
- 6-9 AM "Traditions", Bluegrass,

Celtic and Folk Show with host Sean Brennan, KZSU FM.

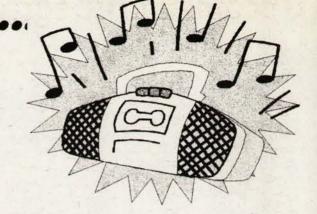
- 9-Noon "The Sunny Side of Life" with Uncle Junior, KAZU FM.
- 9:30-Noon "Meadow's Heaven Bar and Grill" with Steve Meadows, KZSC FM.
- 10-1 PM "The Long and Dusty Road" with Don Jacobson, alternating with "Folk Say" with Che Greenwood, KVMR FM
- 10-1:00 PM "All Over the Country Road" with Harold Day, KMUD FM.
- 10-2:00 PM "Backwoods and Forwoods", with Hank Stamper, KFIC FM
- 12:05-1 PM "Thistle and Shamrock" with Fiona Ritchie, KHSU FM
- 1-2 PM "Rider's Radio Theatre", KHSU FM
- 3-5 PM "Lone Star State of Mind" with Cow Patti, KCSS FM.
- 4-7 PM "Friday Music Magazine" with Rich Shipley, KVMR FM.

Saturday

- 5-6 AM "A.M. Oldies and Bluegrass Show" with J.W. Moran, KVML FM
- 5-11 AM "The Morning Show" (eclectic country including bluegrass) with Mark Collins, KAVA AM.
- 6-9 AM "Captain Nashville" 2nd Saturday of each month. Country, folk and bluegrass on KKUP FM.
- 6-10 AM "Wildwood Flower" hosted by Ben Elder, KPFK FM. 7:30-8 AM "Rider's Radio Theatre"
- KUOP FM 8-9 AM "River City Folk", KUOP
- 8-10 AM "The Risky bisket Hayseed Hoot" hosted by Dandy Dan, KTHX FM
- 8-10 AM "Heartfelt Music" hosted by John and Deane Davis, KPFK FM.
- 9-11 AM "Humble Pie" with Jimmy Humble, KZYX FM.
- 9-Noon Saturday Morning Folk Show with Peter Schiffman or Hiram Jackson, KDVS FM.
- 9 AM 9 PM "Prairie Fires and Paper Moons" with various hosts. Bluegrass, Celtic and folk music, interspursed with Garrison Keihlor's Prairie Home Companion and other shows. KUOP FM
- 10-Noon "County Line Bluegrass" with Eric Rice, KVMR FM
- 10:30-12 "Whistlestop" with Howard Yearwood, KCSN FM. 11-1 PM "Fog City Radio" with Ben
- Fong-Torres; KQED FM
 11 AM-1PM "Lunch on the
 Back Porch" with Diane Herring

(Bluegrass) KZYX FM.

- 12-2 PM "Hard Country" current classic country with Rick Snelson, now alternating with "Ragged But Right" with Thomas Greener, KVMR FM
- 1-3 PM "Tubby Tunes" (Eclectic



Cowboy Music with Bluegrass) with Long John Morehouse, KZYX FM.

- 1-3 PM "The Minstral Song Show" with Haila Hafley and Jim Mueller, KCBX FM
- 1-5 PM "Our Roots are Showing" with various hosts, KRCB FM.
- 2-4 PM "Rockin' and Stompin" with Wes Robertson, KVMR FM
- 3-5 PM "Mountain Stage" with Larry Groce, KALW FM and KPBS FM (San Diego).
- 3-6 PM "Swing Boogie" with alternating DJs Dave Barnett and Diana Dobro. Swing Boogie and Bluegrass on KKUP FM.
- 3:30-4 PM "Ragged but Right", (old timey) with Jim Mueller KCBX FM
- 4-5 p.m. "The Thistle & Shamrock", (Celtic music) with Fiona Ritchie, KCBX.
- 5-6 PM "Folk Music and Beyond" with Joann Marr and Bob Campbell, KALW FM.
- 6-7 PM "Bluegrass Signal" with Peter Thompson on KALW FM.
- 7-Midnight "All Kinds of Country" (bluegrass) with Sully Roddy, KYCY FM.
- 8-10 PM "West Coast Weekend" with Sedge Thompson; KQED FM

Sunday

- 7-10:30 AM "The Radio Flyer" with Scott McLong-street, KOTR FM.
- 7 AM 6 PM "Fat Sunday" with hosts Cow Patti, Texas Red, Polly Pureheart, Leffty, The Prankster, and Savanah, KCSS FM.
- 9-Noon "The Root Cellar", KFJC

- FM.
- 9-Noon "Sunnyside Up" hosted by Bruce Ross on KZSU FM.
- 11 AM-1PM Across The Great Divide, acoustic and folk with Robbie Osman, KPFA FM
- 1-3 PM "America's Back 40", the hicks from coast to coast with Mary Tilson, KPFA FM
- 2-3 PM "The Gospel According to John", bluegrass gospel with John Lawson, KNCO AM.
- 3-5 PM "Pig In A Pen" with Ray Edlund or "Panhandle Country" with Tom Diamant, KPFA FM.
- 10-1 PM "The Eagle's Whistle" with Tam Paterson — Celtic folk music. KAZU FM.
- Noon-4 PM "The Folk Show" with alternating hosts Carl Johnsen (1st Sunday); Don Rhodes (3rd Sunday); ad Kenny and Marta Hall (4th Sunday); wide variety of American and international folk music, KSJV, KMPO and KTQX FM
- 1-3 PM "Down On The 'Pataphysical' Farm" with Leigh Hill and Chris Jong, old-timey and bluegrass, alternating with Chris Jong, KUSP FM
- 2-4 PM "Old Fashioned Folk Music Show" a mix of folk, Bluegrass, celtic, old-time and more, with Lorraine Dechter KCHO and KPFR FM
- 2-5 PM "Folk, Bluegrass & Beyond", alternating hosts: Danielle Durkee, Eric Swansick, Jim Burke, Malcom Carlock, KUNR FM.
- 3-4 PM "Shady Grove" old-time

(Continued on Page 32)

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Turn Your Radio On.

(Continued from Page 31) music of North America with Steve Goldfield on KCHO and KFPR FM.

6 PM American Bluegrass Network's "Cornbread Jamboree", KWUN AM

6-9 PM "Cuzin Al's Bluegrass Show", with Cuzin Al Knoth -"28 Years in Your Ears", KPIG FM 7-10 PM "Folkscene" hosted by Roz

and Howard Larman, KPFK FM. 7-Midnight "All Kinds of Country" (bluegrass) with Sully Roddy, KYCY FM.

8-10 PM "Bluegrass Journal" with Earle White, KVMR FM.

9-midnight "Cupertino Barn-dance", honky-tonk, western swing and Appalachian music, with Stompin' Steve Hathaway, KKUP FM

10-midnight "Bluegrass Special" with Wayne Rice, KSON FM.

STATION LOG

KALW 91.7 FM P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA 94620, (415) 641-5259

KAVA 1450 AM P.O. Box 1090, Burney, CA 96013.

KAZU 90.3 FM 176 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA 93950, requests (408) 375-3082, office (408) 375-7275

KCBL 88.7 FM 4623 T Street, Sacramento, CA 95819, (916) 456-5199

KCBX 90.1 4100 Vachell Lane, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, (805) 544-5229.

KCHO 91.7 FM Chico State University, Chico, CA 95926, (916) 895-5896.

KPFR 88.9FM Redding Repeaters for above at:

89.5 Weaverville

Chester 90.7 Mineral, Susanville & Yreka

Bieber

Burney, Dunsmuir. 91.9 Mt. Shasta and Weed

94.3 Hayfork 103.5

Alturas Cable Carriers:

97.1 Chico, Orland & Willows

Redding 101.1

KCSN 88.5 FM California State University Northridge, CA (818) 885-3090

KCSS 91.9 FM CSU Stanilsaus. 801 W. Monte Vista Ave., Turlock, CA 95380, (209) 667-3900. KDVS 90.3 FM 14 Lower Freeborn Hall, University of California at Davis, Davis, CA 95616. Office (916) 752-0728; requests (916) 752-2777.

KFIC 89.7 FM Footbill College, 12345 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022, requests (415) 941-2500, office (415) 948-

KFPR 88.9 Chico State University, Chico, CA 95926, (916) 895-

KHSU 90.5 FM Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521, (707) 826-4807.

KKUP 91.5 FM P.O. Box 820, 10221B Imperial Way, Cupertino, CA 95015, requests (408) 253-6000, office (408) 260-2999.

KMUD 91.1 FM 973 Redwood Drive, Garberville, Redwood Community Radio, Box 135 Redway, CA 95560, requests (707) 923-3911, office (707) 923-2513.

KNCO 570 AM 108 E. First St. Alturas, CA 96101.

KOTR 94.9 FM 840 Sheffield, Cambria, CA 93428, (805) 544-5476.

KPBS 89.5 FM San Diego State University. San Diego, CA 92 182-0001, (619) 594-8100, FAX (619) 265-6478.

KPFA 94.1 FM 1929 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704-106, (510) 848-4425 on air, office 848-6767

KPFK 90.7 FM 23457 Schoolcraft St, .West Hills, CA 91307, (818) 346-4112, FAX 818-883-

KPIG 107.5 FM 1110 Main Stree Suite 16, Watsonville, CA 95076-3700, (408) 722-9000, FAX (408) 722-7548, Request line (408) 722-

KOED 88.5 2601 Mariposa Street. San Francisco, CA 94110-140, (415) 553-2127.

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372-4154, office (408) 422-7484. KUNR 88.3 University of Nevada-Reno, Reno, NV 89557 (702) 784-6591.

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