



BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Vol. 24 No. 12

April, 1999

Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers return to CBA Festival

Fans of the Soulful singing and outstanding songwriting of Larry Sparks will have another opportunity to see him perform this June at the CBA's 24th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, June 17-20, 1999 in Grass Valley, California.

Larry began his career at the top of his profession when he worked with the Stanley Brothers and Ralph Stanley during the late 60's. He formed the Lonesome Ramblers in 1969, and began a recording career that to date has produced many albums and has established him as one of the top names in Bluegrass.

Larry's style of singing and playing are among the most copied in the genre. Based on rock solid rhythm and with driving support from the Lonesome Ramblers, his guitar style is legendary for hot solos and "lonesome" instrumentals. And Larry's singing, long the highlight of the band, has earned him the reputation of "the Most Soulful

Voice in Bluegrass". Credits like that only come with a high degree of talent, professionalism, and many long years of excellence.

Since the birth of Bluegrass festivals in 1966, Larry and the Lonesome Ramblers have played all across the country during the summer, busy with festivals and park shows. During the winter months, the band stays busy with a full schedule of college concerts and other indoor events.

Be sure to catch Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers this June, they will be on the CBA's festival stage on Saturday, June 19th at 9:05 p.m.; and twice on Sunday, June 20th, at 2:10 and 5:50 p.m.

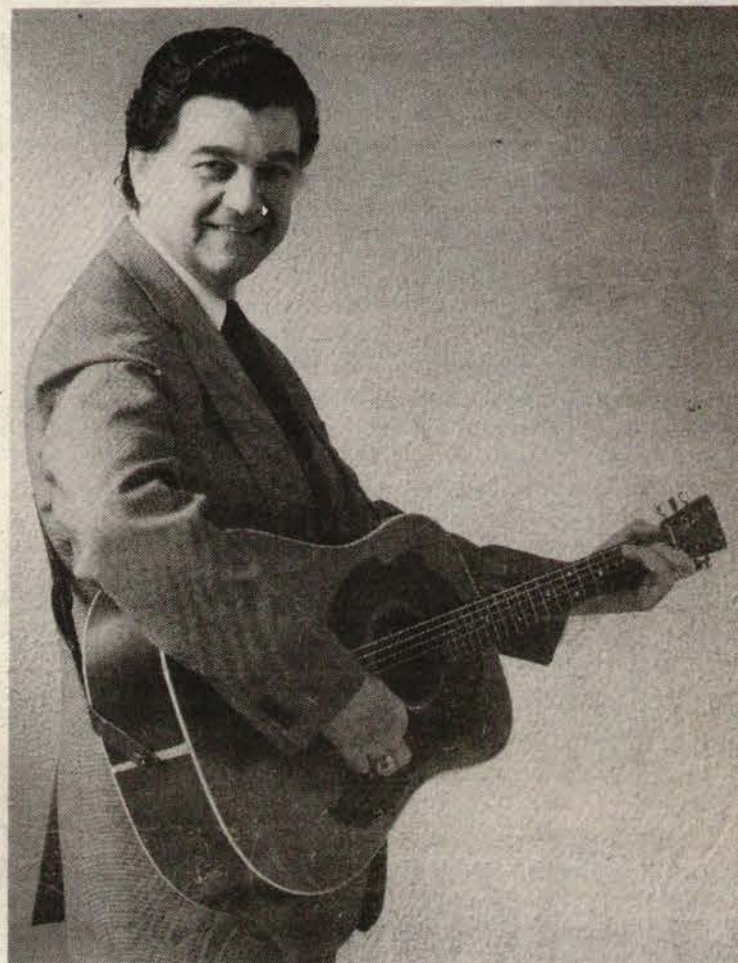
Other Specially Featured Bands performing include: the Osborne Brothers, Mac Wiseman, Ild Tyme Out, Dave Evans and River Bend, and the Sand Mountain Boys. Mountain Heart was selected for the Emerging Artist Band performance slots for 1999.

Featured Bands are: Country Ham, The Crooked Jades, 5 for the Gospel, Tim Graves and Cherokee, The Kathy Kallick Band, Northern Pacific, Special Consensus, Within Tradition, and the Witcher Brothers. In addition, Kids on Bluegrass and a clogging group will also be appearing on our stage this June.

In addition to the music on stage all four days, there will be workshops, a children's program, and lots on jamming beneath the tall pine trees on the Nevada County Fairgrounds. On site camping on the fairgrounds is included in all 3 and 4 day festival tickets. A separate tents only camping area is available. A limited number of RV electrical and water hookups are available and there are two sanitary dump stations on the grounds.

Food, music and other concessions are on the Festival site, however, no alcohol is sold. No pets of any kind are allowed on the grounds. Festival is held rain or

(Continued on Page 4)



Larry Sparks

CBA to present Continental Divide/Fox Family Concerts and Spring Campout this month

CBA to present Continental Divide and the Fox Family in South Bay and Sacramento April 16 & 17

The California Bluegrass Association is proud to present two outstanding Bluegrass bands in Concert on April 16 and 17, 1998. The Fox Family and Continental Divide will be performing on Friday, April 16 at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Road in Palo Alto, sponsored by the South Bay CBA; and on Saturday, April 17 at the Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks California.

Both of the bands have performed on the CBA Festival stage and are among the most exciting young bands in Bluegrass music today. The Fox Family is known for their original material and their outstanding vocal leads and harmony, as well as the outstanding

instrumental techniques demonstrated by individual band members.

Continental Divide brings the outstanding lead vocals of David Parmley, a long-time member of The Bluegrass Cardinals, and virtuoso instrumental performances by David and the other members of his band.

Order your tickets now for one (or both) of these concerts — you'll be happy you did! Details for each concert are listed below and ticket order forms are on page 19 of this issue.

• April 16 — 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:45 p.m.); at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA. General Admission: \$16 CBA members, \$18 non CBA members or at the door. Children under 16 1/2 price when accompanied by a

paid adult admission. For tickets, write to: Matt Dudman, South Bay CBA, 1009 Acacia Lane, Davis, CA 95616. For further information, call 530-318-4455, or E-mail: SouthBayCBA@Yahoo.com; or visit their web site at <http://www.geocities.com/Nashville/5443/SouthBayCBA.html>

• April 17 — 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.); at Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks, CA. General admission: \$15 CBA members; \$17 non CBA members or at the door. Children under 16 1/2 price when accompanied by a paid adult admission. For tickets, write to Al Shusterman, 5717 Reinhold Street, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. For information, call 916-961-9511.

CBA's Spring Campout will be held April 23-26 at the Colusa

County Fairgrounds in Colusa, California. Come join your Bluegrass friends for a relaxed weekend of jamming, visiting and relaxing away from the phone and work-day stress.

The Colusa Fairgrounds offers lots of RV and tent camping space,

plenty of electric and water hookups, showers and permanent restrooms for your camping comfort. The only cost for the weekend is the \$15 RV or \$10 Tent camping fee per night. For information, call Al Shusterman at 916-961-9511.

Bluegrass Breakdown
California Bluegrass Association
P.O. Box 690369
Stockton, CA 95269-0369

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1998/99 California Bluegrass Association

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- Lolan Ellis* — Festival Coordinator
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- Yvonne Gray* — Security Coordinator
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- M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper — CBA Ambassador At Large
P.O. Box 55, Sheridan, CA 95681-0055 (530) 633-4161
- Matthew Dudman — South Bay Activities Vice President
20290 Edinburgh Dr., Saratoga, CA 95070-5041 (408) 867-7243
- Madelyn Ellis — President and Festival Gate Crew Coordinator
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- Sue Van Enger — Secretary
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Coordinators

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1552 Vervais Ave., Vallejo, CA 94591 (707) 552-6934
- Neale and Irene Evans — Mercantile Coordinators
18 Waterfront Court, Sacramento, CA 95831 (916) 427-1214
- Joe Fox — Publicity Coordinator
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- Bob Gillim — Electrical Consultant
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- Terry Ingraham — Children's Program Coordinator
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- Gene Kirkpatrick — Concessions Coordinator
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- David Runge — Advance Ticket Sales Coordinator
215 Grant Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952 (707) 762-8735
- John Senior — Festival Stage Crew Coordinator
3082 Warnke Rd., Paradise, CA 95969 (530) 877-1764



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 April meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, April 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Yvonne and Paul Gray in Stockton. (Address and phone number at left.)

Please send all contributions and advertisements to:
Suzanne Denison, 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**

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Columnist	Joe Weed
Columnist	Bill Wilhelm
Feature Writer	Barry Willis
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Recording Reviews	Ken Reynolds & Michael Hall

Writers, artists, musicians and photographers are encouraged to submit their original material 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 either Mac or DOS formats.

California Bluegrass Association Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse _____
Address _____ Child(ren) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Single Membership \$15.00

With Spouse Added \$17.50

Children 12-18 (non-voting) \$1.00 each

Children 12-18 (voting) \$10.00 each

Band Memberships (3-5 members) \$25.00

Mail to: Mrs. Mary Runge
CBA Membership Vice President
215 Grant Avenue
Petaluma, CA 94952
(707) 762-8735

Membership includes 12 issues of the *Bluegrass Breakdown*, and discount prices for the Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival and all CBA sponsored concerts. Each band member is entitled to receive a copy of the publication. Please list names and addresses on a separate sheet.

Type of membership:

- ☐ Single - 1 vote
- ☐ Couple - 2 votes
- ☐ Single or Couple With non-voting children
- ☐ Single or Couple with voting children
- Children's names and Birthdates: _____

If Senior Citizens, please list birthdates: _____

Membership Total \$ _____

New ☐ Renewal ☐ Member # _____

Volunteer Area _____

Editor's Corner

by Suzanne Denison

Spring is finally here and the Bluegrass Festival season isn't far away... I can hardly wait! We have had a really cold winter up here on Blue Mountain, and everything is slow to bloom and bud. My daffodils and tulips finally came out in late March, and the fruit trees are now covered with blossoms, but we had 6 inches of snow in mid March.

We hope you'll take a look at the Upcoming Events section of this issue before planning your weekends. There are a number of concerts and campout events this month which you're sure to enjoy. Among those performing in concert in Northern California are Eddie and Martha Adcock, Dale Ann Brad-

ley and the Coon Creek Girls, Continental Divide, Joe Craven, the Fox Family and David Thom Band.

In addition, on April 7th CBA member Arlene Berg is hosting a campout and jam at Music Campout at Stony Gorge Reservoir near Winters; and on the weekend of April 23-25, the CBA Spring Campout will be held at the Colusa County Fairgrounds in Colusa, California. In other words, check the listing and you're sure to find something that you'll enjoy attending.

As you will read in this issue, and possibly have read in past issues, the CBA's annual Fall Campout has been a subject of some controversy. Your elected Board of Directors made the decision to combine

the Fall Campout with the Feather River Fiddle Festival and the Beckwourth Days Celebration in Marysville after receiving a proposal which sound great and promised to expose Bluegrass and Old-time music to a wider audience.

After considering member concerns and input, however, it was decided at the Board meeting on March 14th to hold the CBA's Fall Campout as a separate event. Activities Vice President Al Shusterman is checking to find a location and dates which will be announced in the next issue. The Board stipulated that the CBA event would be held on a different weekend than the Marysville events to allow those members who are interested to go

to Marysville and still be able to attend the campout. Stay tuned for details.

Speaking of member input and participation, yours is needed to help produce our annual Father's Day Bluegrass Festival this June. Please read Faye Downs' article requesting volunteers for the festival and give her a call to become part of our production team. It takes more than a "village" to put on a Festival, and we need YOU!

Another way to participate is to consider standing for election for the CBA Board of Directors for the 1999-2000 year. Members who are interested in becoming candidates are asked to submit a letter of intent and a petition, signed by at



least 15 current CBA members by July 10, 1999. If you would like further information, call any member of the Board (names and phone numbers on page 2) or the CBA office at 209-293-1559. You can also contact the CBA office via e-mail: <cbawpn@volcano.net>.

Until next month... enjoy the music!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More CBA Fall Campout comments

Editor:

Bill and I have been CBA members for about 20 years now and very active members for the past 7 or 8 years. In the years since we have been active members, I can remember a year when the fall campout was held in conjunction with the Napa Valley Folk Festival. At the end of that weekend, the people we talked to and/or were around were pretty dissatisfied with the way the weekend went and the consensus was—"let's don't do this again!"

Another year, a camp out was held at the Solano County Fairgrounds and Jim & Jesse were hired as entertainment. The consensus after that weekend was—"what do we need entertainment for? We came to jam!"

Then there was the year that the camp out was held in Anderson

in conjunction with the Festival there. We didn't go, but we sure heard about how dissatisfied folks were with that endeavor. Now, here we go again! The Board has decided to join yet another group for the fall camp out. How many times will they make decisions concerning the camp out that they end up regretting before they learn that the people who go to these gatherings go to jam. The campers don't want to be entertained by paid entertainers, they don't want to have open mics, they don't want to participate in other things that are going on around them, they simply want to get together with their friends (i.e. Bluegrass Family) and jam and visit and jam and eat and JAM!

Then there is the question of facilities to consider. Generally, the campers NEED WATER, appreciate some power and hot showers,

and need a dump station when the weekend comes to an end. In addition, some sense of security is needed for the many expensive instruments the jammers have around. Since none of these things are available at Riverfront Park, it is hard for me to see anything on the "plus" side of the scale.

I have a feeling that if this fall venue isn't changed back to Colusa, or someplace comparable, there won't be very many people at the fall camp out. Therefore, I am hoping the Board will reconsider their decision to participate in the Riverfront Park program.

Sincerely,
Faye Downs

Editor:

I think the campout at the end of summer should be in Grass Valley. This would avoid the heat of the valley and will reward the pick-

ers with cool nights. Also at that time of the year the bugs are a real problem in the valley.

In the spring, I think the valley is a better choice in that it is not so cold and makes it easier to play into the night. Also bugs and or rain are not much of a issue at that time of year.

Dan Baker
via e-mail

Editor:

This letter is about our Colusa campout, and the Beckwourth Days.

First of all, I say — if its not broke don't fix it.

We all look forward to our Spring and Fall campouts where we get to see our bluegrass family and play our wonderful music with them, visit, meet new friends etc. The campground (at Colusa) is a wonderful facility and we just have a great time.

It seems to me the Beckwourth people are trying to drag us into a

different location, dry camp, poor facilities for their gain. The way I see it is if the bluegrass folks want to see the Beckwourth festivities they can go there and if the Beckwourth folks want to hear some great music they can come to the fairgrounds.

Thank you for your time.

Marvin "Jake" Hiebert
Member #4671

Editor's note: Thanks to all of you who wrote us with concerns about the CBA's Fall campout. The Board decided at its March 14th meeting to hold a seperate event rather than combine it with the festival in Marysville. Watch for new dates and location in the May issue of the Bluegrass Breakdown. Suzanne

Bluegrass Breakdown Advertising Rates

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

Display Advertising

Full Page - 10" wide X 13" high	\$150.00
Half Page - 10" wide X 6.5" tall or 4.5" wide X 13" tall	\$75.00
Quarter Page 4.5" wide X 6.5" tall	\$37.50
Business Card - 2 columns wide (3 7/8") X 2" tall	\$25.00

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

BANJO, BEAUTIFUL GOLD STAR 5-string, autographed, case, accessories \$950.00 (707) 545-1928 p2x
ACOUSTIC UPRIGHT BASS, 1930's Kay, good condition, \$1,000.00. Call JoAnne at 619-273-3048. 1X

WASHBURN BANJO, 5-string, like new. Capo and case included, \$750.00 obo. Call Bob at 530-671-6735. 1x

ADVANCE TICKETS for the 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival on sale now through June 7, 1999. Order early and save \$\$\$ See ad on page 17 for information and ticket order blank.

CBA LOGO 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.

Synopsis of January 1999 CBA Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the January 10, 1999
CBA Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Board Carl Pagter at 1:30 p.m. at the home of John Duncan in Sacramento.

1. Roll call — Board Members and Officers Present: Carl Pagter, Don Denison, Yvonne Gray, J.D. Rhynes, Mary Runge, Harold Crawford, Kelly Senior, Al Shusterman, Bob Thomas, Matt Dudman, Terry Ingraham, and Acting Secretary Suzanne Denison. Absent: President Madelyn Ellis. Coordinators present: Neale and Irene Evans, David Runge, and Gene Kirkpatrick

CBA members: John Duncan, Phil Boerner, Janet Wicker, Paul Gray, Jake and Janet Quesenberry and Sue Van Eger.

2. Secretary's Report — Motion was made by J.D. Rhynes, 2nd by Don Denison to approve the December minutes as corrected. Motion passed.

3. Treasurer's Report — Kelly Senior distributed copies of her report to Board members and the acting Secretary.

4. Membership Report — Mary Runge reported the current membership as 2519. She reported that she and David would be representing the CBA festivals in Southern California and Arizona. Mary asked if the Board would like to continue to issue CBA decals to members and asked for prices and a change of the colors. Irene Evans said she would check on these items and report back to the Board.

5. Mercantile Report — Irene Evans reported that the CBA Mercantile had received 5 mail orders during the month of December for a total of \$93.00 in sales.

Old Business

Larry Sparks

(Continued from Page 1)

shine and no refunds are given.

If you haven't already ordered your Tickets for the 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, there is a ticket order form on Page 17 of this issue. On the facing page there is a complete performance schedule for your information.

If you aren't a CBA member, you can join and purchase tickets at the discount price at the same time. There is a membership form on Page 2 of this issue. Make your checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association, include both forms, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope and mail to: Mary and David Runge, 215 Grant Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94932. For further ticket information, call David Runge at 707-762-8735.

1. Festival Timetable — Festival Coordinator Lolan Ellis distributed copies of the 1999 Festival timetable to all coordinators. The following items were discussed:

A. Timely listing of the CBA Festival in Bluegrass Unlimited magazine.

B. Contracts for the Festival sent to Carl Pagter for signature with the exception of the Sound Contract.

C. Lolan reported to the Board that he would remain as Festival Coordinator through the 1999 Festival and that a new Coordinator would have to be found for future festivals. He offered to assist the new coordinator during the 2000 Festival. He also reported that Madelyn would not continue to be Gate Crew Coordinator beyond the 1999 Festival.

D. Stage Construction equipment — Lolan reported that the capital improvements for the CBA Festival stage would be completed for this year's Festival and all of the equipment will be delivered by May of 1999.

2. Festival Coordinators' Reports

A. Advance Ticket Sales — David Runge reported that advance sales were up from the past several years.

B. Children's Program — Terry Ingraham reported that she had selected a theme of the 49ers Gold Rush for the 1999 Children's Program, and that she was in the process of recruiting volunteers and bands for the program.

Lolan Ellis stated that the Clogging Stage provided by the Fairgrounds would be erected in the Children's Program area for the 1999 Festival.

C. Concessions Coordinator — Gene Kirkpatrick reported that he has revised the Concessions Contracts and sent them to Carl Pagter for review. Gene also reported that he has been working with the Sacramento Luthier's Guild on the possibility of a Luthier's Show during the 1999 Festival. A discussion of the show followed and prices were set for booth space. A motion was made by Don Denison, 2nd by J.D. Rhynes to charge the Luthiers a fee of \$10 per linear foot in 5 foot increments with the booth space to be approximately 20' deep. Motion carried.

D. Entertainment Coordinator — Harold Crawford distributed copies of the revised Band performance schedule to Board members and Suzanne Denison and reported that he was working on the workshop and emcee schedules.

E. Gate Crew Coordinator —

Madelyn Ellis was not present due to illness.

F. Publicity Coordinator — Joe Fox was absent but sent a written report which was distributed to Board members.

G. Security Coordinator — Yvonne Gray had nothing to report.

H. State Construction Coordinator — John Senior was not present and did not submit a report.

I. Volunteer Coordinator — Faye Downs was not present and did not submit a report.

J. Tent Camping Coordinator — Don Denison reported on the definition of the vehicles to be permitted in the "Tents Only" Camping Area which was printed in the January 1999 *Bluegrass Breakdown*. In addition, Don was asked to send a letter and a copy of the tents only camping area to all those who purchased their Early Bird Tickets before the map was approved. David will send Don a list and Don agreed to send the maps and letter.

K. Other — Clogging group for the 1999 Festival. Suzanne Denison reminded Board members that no clogging group had submitted applications for the 1999 CBA Festival, and none had been selected by the Committee in November. Carl Pagter said that he would contact Bob Gillim see if he is willing to assist with this matter.

3. Chairman Carl Pagter reported that the CBA's Insurance was up for renewal and he is handling the process.

4. Activities Vice Presidents' Reports:

A. Al Shusterman distributed copies of a written report on the Suzanne Thomas/Don Rigsby and Friends Concert. He also reported that plans were well underway for the April 17th Continental Divide/Fox Family concert. The venue selected was the Sunrise Community Church at 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks. The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the doors opening at 6:00 p.m. Each band will play two sets, and the concert should end by 10 p.m. Ticket prices were discussed.

A motion was made by Al Shusterman, 2nd by Lolan Ellis to set advance ticket prices at \$15 for CBA members and \$17 for the general public with children 16 and under 1/2 price. All tickets at the door will be \$17 each. Motion carried.

CBA Spring Campout — Al suggested the weekend of April 23-25, 1999 at the Fairgrounds in Colusa for the 1999 Spring

Campout. A brief discussion followed.

A motion was made by Al Shusterman, 2nd by Mary Runge to hold the CBA Spring Campout at the Fairgrounds in Colusa, CA on the weekend of April 23-25, 1999. Camping fees to be \$15 for RVs and \$10 for tents. Motion carried.

B. Bob Thomas reported on Sacramento Area CBA Activities — he said that there were 67 people at the December Gospel jam in Folsom.

Bob also reported that he had been contacted by the Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association and thanked for participating in the December picking party and weekend at Cal Lodge. The Nevada association has suggested another such event in the same location in July. Bob said that he would pursue the idea and report back to the Board.

Bob was asked if the Colfax 4th of July event was planned for 1999. Bob said that the Colfax Chamber of Commerce appeared to be interested in a joint event for 1999 and he would report details as they are confirmed.

C. Matt Dudman reported on the South Bay CBA Activities. He passed around a copy of his first SBCBA Newsletter (January 1999). Mary Runge asked if copies could be mailed to all Board members in the future. Matt agreed.

Matt reported on the April 16th Continental Divide and Fox Family concert to be held at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., in Palo Alto, CA. Matt asked for guidance on the ticket prices for the concert and a brief discussion followed.

A motion was made by Lolan Ellis, 2nd by J.D. Rhynes to set the ticket prices for the April 16th concert at \$16 for CBA members and \$18 for the general public (in advance) and \$18 for all adults at the door. Children's tickets will be 1/2 price when accompanied by a paid adult admission. Motion carried.

D. CBA 1999 Fall Campout — Suzanne Denison reported that she had received two e-mail letters from CBA members regarding the combining of the CBA Fall Campout with the Feather River Fiddle Jamboree in Marysville. Several Board members and Bob Thomas said that they had received phone calls from members on the same issue. Most of the input from members was against the combined event. A general discussion followed. It was the

consensus of the Board that the event would be held in Marysville in 1999 to try it out and it may be changed next year.

5. Conflict of Interest Statement — Matt Dudman has agreed to draft the legal aspects of a Conflict of Interest Statement for consideration by the Board.

New Business

1. Contract with Denison Desktop Publishing — Suzanne Denison reminded Board members that the contract between the CBA and Denison Desktop Publishing was due for review at the February meeting.

2. Use of CBA Logo — There has been a request asking permission to use the CBA logo on products for sale. After a brief discussion it was decided that the Board would have to review the items before permission would be granted.

3. Adding Footworks to the 2000 Festival line-up — Carl Pagter reported that the group Footworks (Formerly the Fiddle Puppets) had been contacted per the Board's request to determine what kind of performance fee they would ask. He asked the Board to view a video tape of the group before they discussed the item further. An intermission followed during which the video tape was viewed.

A discussion followed during which the following items were discussed: (1) problems with the size of the CBA's clogging stage and the kind of dancing displayed on the video; (2) dancing surface; (3) problems with sound reinforcement were also brought up.

Carl was asked to discuss the Board's concerns with Footworks and report back at the next meeting.

4. Secretary — Lolan Ellis made a nomination 2nd by Don Denison to name Sue Van Eger as Secretary contingent upon her membership in the CBA. Motion carried.

5. The February meeting was scheduled for Sunday, 14, 1999 at 12:30 p.m. at John Duncan's home in Sacramento. Meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Editor's note: CBA members are invited and encouraged to attend the monthly meetings of their elected Board of Directors. The meetings are normally held on the second Sunday of each month (except June) in the homes of various Board members. Date and time of the meeting is always printed on page 2 of the Bluegrass Breakdown, or call the CBA office at 209-293-1559 to check on date and location. Suzanne

A Big Palo Alto Bluegrass Weekend April 16-17

By Michael Hall

Palo Alto area bluegrass fans should plan to attend back-to-back nights of great bluegrass on Friday-Saturday, April 16-17. Eddie & Martha Adcock, Continental Divide, The Fox Family and The David Thom Band will make this a bluegrass weekend to remember!

The concerts will take place at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 East Charleston Road (near Middlefield Road) in Palo Alto. On Friday night, the California Bluegrass Association will present a 7:30 P.M. show with Continental Divide and The Fox Family. Info: (530) 318-4455.

On Saturday night, Redwood Bluegrass Associates (with SCBS) will present an 8:00 P.M. show with Eddie & Martha Adcock and The David Thom Band. Info: (650) 691-9982.

The blockbuster concert weekend reflects the growing popularity of bluegrass in Northern California and the related growth of bluegrass concert presenters. Long-suffering fans of the music — used to searching for a single night of good music on a weekend — will now have the luxury of going out to see a top bluegrass concert two nights in a row.

The California Bluegrass Association has formed a brand new South Bay Branch, which will add to the bluegrass events already produced in the area by SCBS, RBA, Grass In The Grove, Fiddling Cricket, and many others. The next CBA event will feature "brother duet"-style acts on June 13th in Morgan Hill.

A fat weekend concert schedule is good for bluegrass music, good for musicians, and very good for fans — but it won't be good for either of SCBS' sister nonprofit organizations unless the fans turn out to see BOTH SHOWS. Without fan support, opportunities like this one will promptly disappear.

The long-announced Adcock/Thom show on Saturday night deserves our support as part of a financially-shaky season of high-quality concerts presented by RBA. In fact, fan support of the April 17 RBA show may be essential to a continuation of the series in future years, as RBA tends to run with limited cash reserves.

Likewise, the CBA effort with Continental/Fox on Friday night deserves our support as part of a new venture for the club that will bring even more bluegrass to the

local scene. No doubt, future South Bay CBA endeavors will be booked after consultation with SCBS (at our usual price, free!). Despite creating a crowded weekend, the CBA has brought us a fine show. The success or failure of this concert will largely determine CBA's enthusiasm for future, better-timed, shows.

So, bluegrass fans — we really, really need you to take advantage of this rare opportunity by coming out for BOTH shows. Fan support for TWO shows on the weekend of April 16-17 will determine the fate of two bluegrass concert series that could help keep this area knee-deep in bluegrass for years to come. If RBA cannot pay the bills, it will go under; if CBA has a losing concert, it may decide to focus on other areas of the state. These are NO MISS concerts! — BOTH of them.

Eddie Adcock and Martha Adcock are pioneers of contemporary bluegrass music. Eddie was recently inducted into the IBMA's Hall Of Honor as a member of the Hall's first ever "second generation" band — The Country Gentlemen. So, after Bill, Lester & Earl, Mac, Jimmy, Don & Red, Jim & Jesse and Bobby & Sonny, comes Eddie's star

at Owensboro. Eddie Adcock is a master guitarist who transformed bluegrass banjo by tuning his ax like a guitar and creating his own style. The Adcock banjo style is one of only three in the business, along with the Scruggs and Reno schools. Martha Adcock is one of the best rhythm guitar players in bluegrass. Both sing beautiful high & lonesome vocals. The Adcocks have gone through several formations over the years (Talk Of The Town, The Eddie Adcock Band). The current duet act is the best.

Continental Divide is built around the inspiring vocals of David Parmley, former star of the Bluegrass Cardinals, top-rank guitarist and a California favorite. Banjoist Elmer Burchett has replaced Scott Vestal in the current lineup, but the band's distinctive instrumental sound is unchanged. The band has been absent from the South Bay area for far too long.

The Fox Family offers the most powerful female duet in bluegrass history: Kim Fox on lead and her sister Barb on harmony. The band features familiar bluegrass tunes mixed with many excellent Kim Fox original songs. The New York-based band last played Palo Alto as a part

of the IBMA's western bluegrass conference and was well-received.

The David Thom Band may well be the best traditional bluegrass band in the Bay Area. The young Marin group offers good looks for their youthful fans and powerful instrumentals with paint-peeling high & lonesome vocals for the rest of us. The DTB buzz has just begun to sweep the Bay Area — it's about time you saw them live if you have been left out!

So, remember folks, it's BOTH SHOWS: Eddie & Martha Adcock with David Thom opening. \$15 SCBS members (advance mail orders only), \$16 advance (mail, phone, in person), \$20 (at the door); RBA, PO Box 390846, Mountain View, CA. 94039-0846; info about other ticket purchase options: (650) 691-9982. Continental Divide and The Fox Family: \$16 CBA members (advance only), \$18 non-members or at the door, children under 16 half-price when accompanied by paying adult; Matt Dudman, South Bay CBA, 1009 Acacia Lane, Davis, CA 95616. For further information, call 530-318-4455, or E-mail: SouthBayCBA@Yahoo.com;

See you on Friday and Saturday nights!

Redwood Bluegrass Associates and the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society present



Information:
(650)-691-9982

OR

<http://www.rba.org/>

Eddie and Martha Adcock
Opening: David Thom Band
Pioneering contemporary bluegrass

Laurie Lewis
with Tom Rozum and Todd Phillips
Award-winning singing

Credit card orders: call Back Home Music at 1-800-746-8863 (a small service charge will apply).

Mail orders to Redwood Bluegrass Associates, P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846 (enclose a business-sized SASE). Tickets also available at Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert St., Palo Alto, (650)-493-2131.

Children (5-12) are ½ price.

Saturday, April 17, 1999
8:00 PM (doors open 7:30)

Palo Alto Unitarian Church
505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto

SCBS members: \$15
(advance mail order only)
Advance tickets: \$16
Tickets at the door: \$20

Friday, May 7, 1999
8:00 PM (doors open 7:30)

Palo Alto Unitarian Church
505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto

SCBS members: \$19
(advance mail order only)
Advance tickets: \$20
Tickets at the door: \$24

Bluegrass News Notes



CBA Member News Notes

After reading the article about where our members live in the February issue of this publication, CBA member Freida Boop of Tracy contacted us. She and her husband are interested in starting bluegrass jams or picking parties in their area. Anyone interested in participating can call them at 209-836-4808.



Band & Artists News Notes Congratulations...

Congratulations to Jerry and Debbie Crain on the birth of their son, Jerry Wayne Crain Jr. Jerry Jr. arrived at the Baptist Hospital in Pensacola, Florida weighing 8 lbs. And 13 oz. Jerry is the bass player with the Sand Mountain Boys who will be performing at the CBA's 24th Annual Bluegrass Festival this June. Let's see now... Grandpa Wayne Crain plays guitar; Jerry's brother James plays banjo; Kenny Townsel plays mandolin; and Jason Barie is on fiddle — maybe we'll see a dobro player named Crain with the band someday!



Mountain Laurel releases new CD in February

On Sunday, February 14, in Grass Valley, the legendary Ralph Stanley came to what some called the CD release party for Grass Valley's own Mountain Laurel. Mountain Laurel opened the show and did a great job. They performed several numbers from their new CD, and respectfully stayed clear of Stanley's material. Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys followed and "were just as good." Then came the rush to the Mountain Laurel table to buy the NEW CD.

I have to say it is just excellent. Band members are Pete Siegfried on mandolin, Ken Nilsson on guitar, Rick Grant on fiddle, Paul Siese on banjo, and Doug Bianchi on bass. The CD has 13 songs and four of them are original songs by the band members.

Standout performances, in my humble opinion, are the first cut, "Time to Call My Own", written by Pete Siegfried and Ken Nilsson; Pete's lead is great on "Love Oh Love, Please come home", as is Paul's banjo break; the lead and harmonies on "Can't You Hear Me Calling", are truly hair raising. Ken's guitar work is excellent through-

out, and Pete does an outstanding job singing lead on "Coal Tattoo".

Guest Kathy Barwick Fox adds some very tasteful dobro work on four cuts. The musicianship is clear, dynamic, and supportive of the nice tight vocals. There is plenty of fire in Paul's banjo, and chop in Pete's mandolin. This is an album that traditional bluegrass fans will feel comfortable with, and yet it adds new well-written material to the genre. Their version of Little Maggie is as good as it gets.

I believe the Sacramento area should be proud that there are three local bluegrass bands (Past Due and Playable, Slate Mountain, and Mountain Laurel) with recent recordings out and available. I hope we'll also see one from Big Valley Band in the not too distant future.



New fiddler for Quicksilver

Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver have a new fiddle player, Doug Bartlett of Saltville, Virginia. Doug played most recently with Tina Adair and before that with James King. Doug is originally from New York. In addition to his outstanding fiddling, he also sings and adds a fifth voice to the band.

Congratulations are in order for Doyle Lawson who will celebrate 20 years of performing as Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver on April 2, 1999. He founded the first edition of the band in Greenville, South Carolina. The band played their first show at Buddy's Barbecue in Knoxville, Tennessee in June of 1979. Although the band personnel has changed through the years, the group always sounds wonderful and delivers audience pleasing performances wherever they appear! Happy 20th Anniversary, Doyle!



Musicians needed for Canadian show

We received the following message via e-mail from Shelah Weinreich on February 25th. I'm not sure if musicians are still needed, however, anyone interested may want to call to find out. The message is:

"Needed: mandolin and guitar player for musical show. Read Music: No, but it would help. Where: British Columbia. When: Rehearsals July 13 - Aug 4; Performances July 13 to Aug 29; Shows: Caravan Farm Theater; 6 days a

week, shows are at night 1 1/2 hr.

Particulars: \$260 a week plus room and board (don't know if US or Canadian \$\$). They do their shows at the Caravan Farm in Armstrong, BC; the actors and the musicians are going to live at the farm for the show. The music is 80% written for the show."

Interested musicians should contact Estel at 250-546-8533 or Gord Aciri at 250-542-1867 for details.



Record Company News Notes...

Old-Time Music Breaks New Ground

Acoustic Disc announces the release of "Stories the Crow Told Me", the first solo release by John Cohen, an original member of the New Lost City Ramblers and a longtime proponent of old-time music.

The 23 selections on this album offer over an hour of traditional melodies performed by John (vocals, banjo, guitar) with help from co-producer David Grisman (mandolin, tenor banjo, guitar and autoharp) and old friends Sue Draheim (fiddle) and Jody Stecher (fiddle, banjo and guitar).

John helped found the New Lost City Ramblers, who have championed old-time music for 40 years. He's also an acclaimed folklorist, photographer and film maker who has produced numerous recordings and films of traditional music from all over the world.

The album includes "Rambling Hobo," "Dark Holler," "Chittlin' Cookin' Time in Cheatham County" and others, recorded with authentic flavor and new vitality, making Stories the Crow Told Me a rich retelling of timeless tales.

For information on Stories the Crow Told Me or other Acoustic Disc recordings, you can contact them at P.O. Box 4143, San Rafael, CA 94913; phone 800-221-DISC; or visit their web site at <www.dawgnet.com>.



Doobie Shea Sessions

bu Debbie Austin

Thanks for the overwhelming response to Jeanette Williams' solo project! We've had e-mails from literally all over the world, with positive feedback from the song selection, outstanding lead and har-

mony vocals by Jeanette, Dan Tyminski and Gena Britt, to the beautiful 4-color CD booklet. Jeanette's project was released February 23rd to over 1,000 bluegrass radio stations and record reviewers. If you are an Acoustic/Bluegrass radio station and did not receive Jeanette's promo, please respond to radio@doobieshea.com

Mountain Heart now has a new website! Please visit Barry Abernathy, Steve Gulley, Jimmy VanCleve, Johnny Dowdle and Alan Perdue at <http://www.blueridge.net/~johnny/> The guys would love to hear from you and they have a guest book to leave messages... please stop by and say hello! Many thanks to Bluegrass Now Magazine and Jon Weisberger for the cover/feature article devoted to Mountain Heart in the recent March issue.

Scottie Sparks (<http://www.doobieshea.com/scottie.htm>) has finished his solo project and it will hit the streets March 31st. Scottie is joined by Tim Austin, Rhythm Guitar; Dan Tyminski, Mandolin & Harmony Vocals; Craig Smith, Banjo, Finger Style Guitar; Barry Bales, Bass; Aubrey Haynie, Fiddle(s); Lou Reid and Dwight McCall, Harmony Vocals. There's some awesome new material on this project written by Ronnie Bowman, Tim Stafford and Keith Tew, as well as some older classic Stanley material.

DSR recording artist Dan Tyminski will sing "Take Your Shoes Off Moses" with Alison Krauss and Union Station on an up-coming Dolly Parton television special airing April 1st. The all gospel special will be on TNN (The Nashville Network).

"The Stanley Gospel Tradition - Songs About Our Savior" (on Doobie Shea Records) has been nominated by the AFIM (Association for Independent Music) for a 1999 Indie Award in the category of Southern & Bluegrass Gospel. The winner will be announced May 22nd at the AFIM's annual convention held this year in Atlanta, Georgia.

Produced by the award-winning team of Tim Austin and Dan Tyminski, "Songs About Our Savior" also recently won honors by the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) this past October for 1998 Gospel Recorded Performance of the Year. The project is an all gospel follow-up to the Grammy nominated Doobie Shea release "The Stanley Tradition - Tribute to a Bluegrass Legacy" in which Austin and Tyminski assembled nineteen top notch third generation players and singers and paid tribute to music of The Stanley Brothers, Ralph and Carter.

Doobie Shea Studio News

Alan Bibey has begun a solo project for Sugar Hill Records, produced by Ronnie Bowman. The Grasshoppers will also start a new project in Doobie Shea Studios this month, produced by Tim Austin. Illrd Tyme Out will mix their new project in April for Rounder Records. Lots of great bluegrass sessions currently in work at Doobie Shea, the studio is booked solid through May!



Rounder artists win GRAMMY Awards

Rounder Records artists were honored at the 41st Grammy Awards which were held on February 24, 1999. The recipients and their awards are:

- Best Bluegrass Album: Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder, "Bluegrass Rules!" (Rounder 0801)
- Best Country Collaboration with Vocals: song: "Same Old Train" from the album Tribute To Tradition by Clint Black, Joe Diffie, Merle Haggard, Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss, Patty Loveless, Earl Scruggs, Ricky Skaggs, Marty Stuart, Pam Tillis, Randy Travis, Travis Tritt & Dwight Yoakam.

For information about Rounder Records artists, recordings, or to obtain a product catalog, contact them at One Camp Street, Cambridge, MA 02140; call 617-354-0700; or visit their web site at <www.rounder.com>.



Tricopolis Records new release by Sheri Lee

Tricopolis Records has just released a project by Sheri Lee. Seven of the songs are originals by her and are getting a lot of airtime on the southern California radio stations.

Artists involved in the project are: Sean Watkins and Sara Watkins on mandolin and fiddle, Mike Nadolson on lead guitar and harmonies, David Richardson on banjo, guitar and harmonies, Dean Knight on bass and harmonies and David Dias on the Dobro.

Songs on the project include: Lark in the Morning, Out of the Blue, Coat and Hat, Darlin' Come Back to Me, Where will I Go, Flower in the Desert, Julian, White River, More Than Words Could Ever Say, Pain of a Troubled Heart and May He Be The Power.

Bluegrass News Notes



The CD was recorded at Compact Recording Studios and produced by David Richardson. You can visit the Tricopolis Website at <www.tricopolisrecords.com> to hear RealPlayer sound clips of this CD.

Tricopolis is also proud to announce that they have also signed "Bluegrass Etc.." for their next CD project which should be released by May.

For information about the Shari Lee recording or other projects, contact Tricopolis Records, 33261 Adelfa Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530, phone 909.678.0831 or 909.678.4415; or e-mail Mike Nadolson at <mnflatpick@kelp.net>.



Wind River Records launched in Illinois

Folk Era Records, the renowned 10-year-old independent record label based near Chicago, launched its long-awaited new imprint, Wind River Records on Feb-

ruary 23, 1999. The label will kick off with a selection of new releases and re-issues from some of today's hottest contemporary artists.

"I'm proud to say that we've already signed some of the country's most talented and acclaimed artists," said Ian Shaw, Managing Director of Wind River. Among the label's first releases will be Cosy Sheridan's "Grand Design"; guitar virtuoso Jack Williams' "Across the Winterline"; David Roth's "If You Can Fly"; and "Innocent When You Dream", a new release from Lisa Moscatiello.

The label's primary focus will be contemporary acoustic-based music. For more information on Folk Era/Wind River Records, or to receive further information, write to: Folk Era Productions, Inc. 705 S. Washington St., Naperville, IL 60540-6654; telephone 630-637-2303; FAX 630-416-7213; E-mail: <folkear@folkera.com> or <windriver@folkera.com>.



AcuTab 2nd Annual Banjo Seminar set for Memorial Day weekend

AcuTab is delighted to announce our second Banjo Seminar, to be held in Roanoke Virginia over the 1999 Memorial Day Weekend (May 29-31). The event will be held at the Roanoke Airport Marriott Hotel in their large, comfortable Conference Theater.

We are especially pleased to announce our faculty for this seminar: Sonny Osborne and J.D. Crowe!

The seminar weekend will not only feature more than 20 hours of intensive lecture, instruction and demonstration but also a concert Sunday night with The Osborne Brothers and J.D. Crowe & The New South. In addition to Sonny and J.D., guest instructors will include John Lawless of AcuTab, banjoist/historian Bill Evans and banjoist and instrument craftsman Steve Huber.

The registration fee is \$300 and includes admission to all seminar sessions, the concert Sunday evening and a catered lunch each day the seminar is in session. The Seminar is sponsored in part by

Acoustic Musician Magazine and bluegrass.com.

More details, including curriculum and registration information, can be found on the web at: <<http://www.acutab.com/seminar>>

The Osborne Brothers/New South show will be held at William Byrd High School in nearby Vinton, VA at 8:00 p.m. on May 30 and is open to the public. Tickets are \$18 (\$20 at the door) and are available from AcuTab or any Ticketmaster location. The concert is co-sponsored by WSLC 610-AM and The Roanoke Fiddle & Banjo Club with a portion of the proceeds going to the club.

More details on the concert can be found at: <<http://www.acutab.com/seminar/concert.html>>



Bluegrass World NetRadio announces new hours

BWNRadio (Bluegrass World NetRadio) (BMI and ASCAP li-

censed) is now established (as of February 28, 1999) and playing Bluegrass Music on the internet 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

If you would like to hear your music on Bluegrass World NetRadio send CD to Bluegrass World, P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102 You may listen to BluegrassWorld NetRadio at <http://www.ishowme.com/netradio>



If you have news which might be of interest to Bluegrass, Old-time and Gospel Music fans, please send it to:

Suzanne Denison, Editor
Bluegrass Breakdown
P.O. Box 9
Wilseyville, CA 95257
FAX to 209-293-1220
or E-mail to: cbawpn@volcano.net

Bluegrass Masters

Photo: Irene Young

Photo: Stacey Gelkin



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2-day w/camping \$40

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Kids under 12 Free

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For information and ticket orders call 707-895-3439



Bluegrass Folks — Dave and Mary Runge

by Bill Wilhelm

With rare unavoidable exceptions, the CBA is run by volunteers, dedicated people who work countless hours to make everything work. It would be difficult to find anyone more dedicated and giving of themselves to make our organization function as it does than the Runges. (run - gees)

For example, to get an interview with them, I had to break them away from the CBA booth at the Colorado River Bluegrass festival at Blythe which they had set up and were operating after having driven hundreds of miles down from their home in Petaluma. This is the same thing they do at lots of other festivals. The reasons for this booth are to promote our organization, make it better known and sign up new members.

So, to get better acquainted with Dave, we find he is a native to Petaluma. Yep, he was born and raised on a farm there. He was the youngest of three and his father died when Dave was 7. Then there were some difficult years, as they had to struggle for survival. He grew up listening to and liking the old country music, so bluegrass fell right in line for him when it came onto the scene.

Mary was born in Kansas and moved with her family to Sacramento when she was 14. Even then she loved country music and there was lots of it around Sacramento at that time. She recalls going to where it was played, especially to Wills' Point, Bob Wills' big night club in Sacramento at the time. Mary re-

members many nights of dancing there and at several of the other country music night spots in the area.

Like Dave, she had no difficulty accepting bluegrass as it came onto the scene. She went to Petaluma to visit relatives and liked the rural atmosphere so well she soon moved there. To make a long story short, she met Dave, and they were married. They had two daughters, Amber and Timber, both of whom are now grown up. Mary preferred to be a homemaker and be there for her daughters as they grew up while Dave made a living with a civil service job from which he is now retired.

David is enjoying his retirement and the time he has to do things he has always wanted to do. The grapes were just not there these last couple of years, but when they are available he makes a sizable amount of wine each year. Some of the equipment was of his own making, as Dave is clever with mechanical challenges, able to design, make and repair most anything. I know this first hand, as not only have I had some of his wines, but I was there and played a small part in helping him make a batch one time, several years ago. Oh, yes, he has entered his wines in contests and won medals and ribbons for them. Those fortunate enough to have been to the International Bluegrass Music Association's big annual events in Kentucky will remember the delicious wines, free of charge at the bar at the CBA hospitality

room. Dave is not one to brag, but I can tell you, it was courtesy of not only the CBA, but also of Dave Runge.

Daughter Amber decided to go into the catering business and started resurrecting an old collapsed building with only 3 walls standing. Daddy came to the rescue and totally rebuilt the place including the plumbing and electrical system. He really made it a neat operation where she now runs a successful catering business. And guess what - one of her employees is mama. Yes, Mary works there, as if she had nothing else to do.

Not many people could keep up with Mary. She is also fully supportive of Dave. He is also an avid hunter, nowadays going out only for birds such as ducks, quail and pheasants. He belongs to the local Shriners' Hunting Club. Mary is likewise involved assisting in the cooking of huge dinners for hoards of hungry hunters and their families at their social events.

Mary has been on the CBA Board of Directors for 12 years, serving as membership vice president. During her tenure, the membership has grown from about 600 to over 2600. This amounts to a lot of work and she does it all by hand, (look, mom, no computer) at her desk. She accepts the dues, keeps track of it all, makes the cards out and mails them. She has developed a unique renewal notice system. She keeps files on various other CBA information which Dave helps her with. Their mailman probably



Mary and David Runge

wakes up screaming in the middle of the night.

Dave is the CBA's Festival Advance Ticket Sales coordinator, a big job in itself. He wrote the present procedures for elections of directors and is responsible for the video portion of the band selection process. It has always been done with audio recordings, but he proposed a plan to use video tapes as well. Dave also worked with a former T-shirt concessionaire to obtain permission to use the design for the CBA's official logo. Even this was no small job when you consider that authorization had to be obtained from attorneys of others with similar designs, including

the late Jerry Garcia of "The Grateful Dead" and Bluegrass Unlimited magazine.

Musicians on the road, for the most part miss out on a lot of good home cookin'. They really don't have a chance to eat the way they should. Mary and Dave have done their best to keep them out of the fast food shops and correct this, preparing and serving delicious home cookin' to as many of them as they can, right there in their motorhome. I don't know of any who have ever turned her down. Mary loves cooking for others and says one of her goals in life is to feed starving musicians.

Volunteers needed for CBA's 1999 Bluegrass Festival

This is your opportunity to make new friends and become part of the CBA team this June in Grass Valley!

by Faye Downs

CBA Volunteer Coordinator

The time is drawing near and there is music in the air, so I guess it is high time I started actively recruiting volunteers for the 1999 Father's Day Festival in Grass Valley. Many of you have indicated on our new membership applications or on your membership renewals that you would be available to volunteer. I have your names on my lists and I have sent these lists out to the various coordinators so that they can start contacting you about helping.

However, I am sure that there are many of you out there who might like to find out what this volunteering is all about and maybe find a place where you could be of some help. If this is the case please read the following information and then act on it at your earliest convenience.

1. If you think you would like to be a part of setting up the stage

starting on Monday before the festival or taking the stage back down Sunday evening and Monday morning after the music is all over for another year, please call John Senior (530-877-1764) or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

2. Have you ever thought it might be fun to work at the gate, meeting all the folks as they come in the gate, and starting their weekend out with a smile and a friendly greeting? If you would like to be a part of the gate crew, please call Madelyn Ellis (510-521-6778) or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

3. Our new concessions coordinator will be looking for friendly, able bodied people to work in the ice booth this year. In my opinion, this is the best place to start volunteering! It is where I started and I had a great time. Why not call Gene Kirkpatrick (209-473-1616) or Faye Downs

(707-552-6934) and give it a try?

4. There is a great sitting down type job waiting for you at Headquarters, answering the CBA phone. This is a very easy job, but a necessary one when folks are trying to get information about the festival. Call Madelyn Ellis (510-521-6778) or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

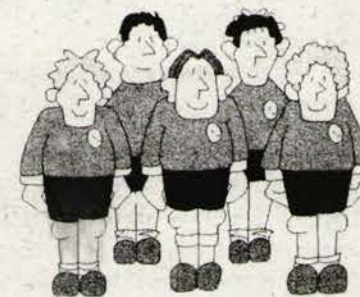
5. Another great place to spend some time helping out at the festival is the Children's Program. This program seems to grow each year and there is always a need for help. Remember, this is not a day care situation. There are planned activities throughout the day, some arts and crafts and some recreational. If you like to be a kid yourself once in awhile, call Terry Ingrahm (510-521-0475) or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

6. A new area for volunteers this year is the "tents only" camping team. Don Denison is looking for volunteers to direct campers to the RV or tent areas on the fairgrounds. People are needed from Monday morning, June 14 until Friday, June 18th. The task is a pleasant way to meet other campers and help folks get settled in to enjoy the Festival. If you'd like to be part of the tent team, call Don Denison at 209-293-1559 or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

7. Last, but most important, is the Security and Parking Crew. These people walk the grounds, both camping and stage areas, making sure everyone is having a good time, getting whatever assistance they may need and feeling secure with the whole festival. Please call Yvonne Gray (209-951-3129) or Faye Downs (707-552-6934).

However many hours you want to volunteer, whatever area you think you would like to spend some time in, you will be deeply appreciated. Don't miss the opportunity to see what really makes this fine festival work!

Thanks for reading this article.



**We need your help...
Join the CBA
Festival Production Team!**

ESSENTIAL!



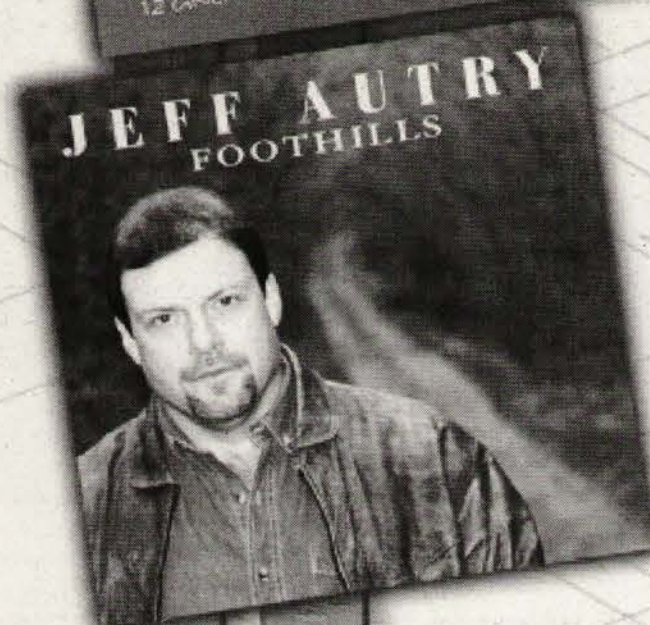
DALE ANN BRADLEY ***Old Southern Porches***

On the much-anticipated followup to *East Kentucky Morning* Dale Ann's voice speaks for itself as she delivers another set of superb vocals, great songs and all the enthusiasm that one of the best female vocalists in all of music can muster!



VARIOUS ARTISTS ***Bluegrass '99***

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Lynn Morris, Laurie Lewis Head All-Star Cast for Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival May 14-16, 1999

by Joe Fox

Final preparations are under way for the 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival, May 14-16 at the Mariposa County Fairgrounds, sponsored by the Mariposa County Arts Council.

Heading the all-star lineup are the Lynn Morris Band and Laurie Lewis her Bluegrass Pals. Lynn Morris was voted 1998 IBMA Female Vocalist of the Year, and her husband, Marshall Wilborn (as a member of Longview) received the 1998 IBMA Song of the Year and Recorded Event of the Year awards.

Joining Laurie Lewis will be her regular bluegrass pals, mandolinist/guitarist Tom Rozum, Craig Smith on banjo and the great Todd Phillips on bass. (For you who don't know, Todd co-founded both the David Grisman Quintet and the Tony Rice Unit. His latest album, "True Life Blues: A Tribute to Bill Monroe" won the Bluegrass Grammy in 1997.) Laurie, as everyone knows, has twice won the IBMA award for Female Vocalist of the Year.

Rounding out this stellar lineup will be the Bluegrass Patriots, who put on a knock-down performance at Grass Valley last year; Lost Highway, a huge hit at last year's Mariposa Festival; the ever-popular Witcher Brothers (who, by the way, will be at Grass Valley this year); crowd-pleasing Sidesaddle & Co., celebrating their 20th Anniversary,

and bay area favorites, Brushy Peak, who recently added the very talented fiddler, Karen Orozco. Many of you will remember some of Brushy Peak's great performances at past CBA Father's Day Festivals.

The fun will start at 6 p.m. Thursday evening with a Bar-B-Q dinner and jam session, this year featuring the Slide Mountain Boys, one of Reno's hottest bluegrass groups. Bring your instrument and join right in!

Tickets for this event are available by calling (800) 903-9936. Don't dilly-dally, because these tickets go fast!

The Mariposa County Fairgrounds are located on Highway 49 just one mile south of the beautiful gold rush town of Mariposa. There's plenty of shade, and over 150 RV and tent sites with hookups. Lots of hot showers, too! Tickets can be ordered from the ad on page 15 of this month's Breakdown, and remember-Kids 16 and under are FREE with a paying adult.

As a new incentive this year, a 3-day pass includes an all-you-can-eat country breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning. What a deal! So mark your calendar and order your tickets — you won't want to miss out on one of the "funnest" and friendliest bluegrass festivals of the year.

7th Annual Wild Iris Folk Festival slated for June 4-6 in Boonville, California

The 7th Annual Wild Iris Folk Festival is scheduled for June 4, 5, and 6, at the Mendocino County Fairgrounds in Boonville, California. The beautiful Anderson Valley is the perfect setting for this small festival which attracts nationally, as well as regionally and locally, celebrated musicians.

On Saturday and Sunday, the main stage will feature an assortment of acoustic performances, from traditional and contemporary folk and bluegrass, to Celtic and Cajun; from Saturday night's swing dance to Sunday morning's gospel. This weekend-long event offers something for everyone.

Topping off this year's program on Sunday will be Tim O'Brien with Darrell Scott. Tim O'Brien, founding member of the Hot Rize bluegrass band, no longer holds himself to a single genre, but moves easily from one to another — folk, blues, jazz, rock, country, and bluegrass.

Salamander Crossing will bring their high energy bluegrass and newgrass to the stage both Satur-

day and Sunday. Katzenjammers, with their unique style of swing blues, will be featured at the Saturday night swing dance, as well as in an afternoon concert set earlier in the day.

Singer-songwriter Joel Mabus will be there to deliver his "Hopelessly Midwestern" humor and insight. Cronan, from the San Francisco Bay area, will provide a mix of traditional and contemporary Celtic music. From nearby Sonoma County, Spiral Bound will bring their own style of folk and Celtic music. Mendocino County singer/songwriter Patrice Ka'ohi brings a Hawaiian flavor to her upbeat original tunes. New to the festival this year will be a Band Scramble. Put your name in a hat, bands will be formed by random drawing and the winning group will perform on the main stage. It all gets started on Friday night with a Contra Dance, with music provided by Sonoma County's Stump Tail Dog.

Away from the main stage, there will be workshops with perform-



Lynn Morris and Marshall Wilborn (l) and Laurie Lewis will be appearing at the 1999 Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival.

La Grange Fiddle and Banjo Contest slated for May 2nd in California

Cactus Bob and Prairie Flower invite you to join them for the annual La Grange Fiddle and Banjo Contest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 2nd. The event is held at the historic old school house on Floto Street in La Grange, California.

Contestants will be competing in the following categories: fiddle, banjo, vocal, mandolin, guitar and miscellaneous. There is a \$40 first prize in each category. Contestant registration fee is \$6 per person.

The Fiddle and Banjo contest is part of the Oldtimers' Homecoming Picnic held at the historic old school house in La Grange. Other activities include a Wild West



PRAIRIE FLOWER — Also known as one Sourdough Slim's Saddle Pals, Christine Stevenson is pictured during a recent performance in the 1998/99 Winter Yeow concert series.

Photo by Howard Gold.

Shootout, Village Blacksmith demonstration, a Craft Fair and Bake Sale, and the Goldstrike Raffle with a first prize of an 1849 \$10 gold coin. Raffle tickets are \$1 donation.

La Grange, one of California's earliest Goldrush settlements was founded in 1848 on the banks of the Tuolumne River. The town is located 30 miles east of Modesto on Hwy 132 and 30 miles north of Merced on Hwy J-59.

The Annual La Grange Oldtimers' Homecoming Picnic is sponsored by the La Grange Improvement Association and Volunteer Fire Department. Admission is free to the public.

Cactus Bob and Prairie Flower will be hosting a Saturday night jam session. For information or contest registration, contact Christine Stevenson at 209-853-2128.

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Friday, April 16th and Saturday, April 17th -- in Two Locations...

Friday, April 16th — 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:45 p.m.)
Palo Alto Unitarian Church
505 E. Charleston Rd.
Palo Alto, CA

General Admission: \$16 CBA members, \$18 non CBA members or at the door. Children under 16 1/2 price when accompanied by a paid adult admission.

PALO ALTO TICKET ORDER FORM

Please send me the following tickets for the April 16th CBA concert in Palo Alto:

_____ CBA Member Tickets @\$16 each CBA Member # _____
_____ CBA Member Child Tickets @ \$8 each
_____ Non-Member Tickets @\$18 each
_____ Non-Member Child Tickets @ \$9 each Total
Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail ticket order form,
payment and a self-
addressed, stamped envelope
to:

South Bay CBA
1009 Acacia Lane
Davis, CA 95616

For information call 530-318-4455E-
mail: SouthBayCBA@Yahoo.com;
or visit their web site at
<[http://www.geocities.com/
Nashville/5443/SouthBayCBA.html](http://www.geocities.com/Nashville/5443/SouthBayCBA.html)>
Please make checks payable to the
California Bluegrass Association

April 17 — 6:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.)
Sunrise Community Church
8321 Greenback Lane
Fair Oaks, CA

General admission: \$15 CBA members; \$17 non CBA members or at the door. Children under 16 1/2 price when accompanied by a paid adult admission.

FAIR OAKS TICKET ORDER FORM

Please send me the following tickets for the April 17th CBA concert in Fair Oaks:

_____ CBA Member Tickets @\$15 each CBA Member # _____
_____ CBA Member Child Tickets @ \$7.50 each
_____ Non-Member Tickets @\$17 each
_____ Non-Member Child Tickets @ \$8.50 each Total
Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail ticket order form, payment and a self-addressed, stamped
envelope to:

Al Shusterman
5717 Reinhold Street
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

For information, call 916-961-9511

Please make checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association

After all these years — Rick Shubb and Bob Wilson release new recording

By George Martin

Through the 1970s Bay Area acoustic music fans were privileged to hear at least semi-regularly some of the most wonderful, eclectic and tasteful music on the planet when the Shubb Wilson Trio (Rick Shubb, banjo; Bob Wilson, guitar, and Markie Shubb, Rick's then-wife, now Markie Sanders, on bass) played the Freight and Salvage Coffee House.

Rick and Bob played bluegrass and old country songs and wonderful jazz; not the percussion-crazed jazz you hear a lot now, nor the far-out squeaks and squawks of the "progressive" wing of the jazz players of that time. They played jazz like the late Stephane Grappelli would have done it; first the melody fairly straight, to sort of demonstrate to the audience what the song was written to sound like, then variations, increasingly fanciful, musical quotes from other songs, a gradual return to the song as written, and finally a nifty closing riff often featuring parallel harmony lines on banjo and guitar.

Their material was endlessly inventive. Shubb was one of the early exponents of melodic style banjo, which he could integrate seamlessly with Scruggs-based licks and chord-based leads, and Wilson was all over the map: octave leads, Django Reinhardt-style single string stuff, even a sort of Travis picking that he did by holding a flat pick in

sated banjo bridge, and eventually the guitar and banjo capos that have resulted in a life in the manufacturing business (see accompanying story).

So the Shubb-Wilson recording career went on hiatus, though the two friends continued to play for their own enjoyment. Now they have completed a self-produced compact disk, "Rick Shubb and Bob Wilson: Bodega Sessions," accompanied by bassist Charlie Warren.

The record grew out of the occasional but intensive music sessions the two longtime friends have had together over the years. "Bob's a teacher, so we'd get together on school holidays," Shubb explained one day in late February in the office portion of his industrial building in Valley Ford, in west Marin County. Shubb has a large "office," partly devoted to the usual desk and such, but the rear portion has a banjo and a couple of guitars and a Macintosh computer and an ADAT digital tape machine set up.

"For instance," Shubb continued, "every winter, one or two days after Christmas he'll come over and stay until almost New Year's." Besides their love of music, Shubb and Wilson share a fascination with old movies, serials, radio dramas and 'B' westerns. "You couldn't exactly call it nostalgia because most of our favorite stuff is from before we were born," Shubb writes in the liner notes for the CD.

"You couldn't exactly call it nostalgia because most of our favorite stuff is from before we were born,"

the normal fashion for the bass and playing the melody notes with his third and fourth fingers.

Wilson's playing reminded one of Grappelli's Quintet of the Hot Club of Paris guitar sidekick perhaps more than one would expect due to the tonality of Wilson's guitar, a 1930s Selmer Macafferri not unlike the one Django played.

The Shubb Wilson Trio made one vinyl album in 1976 that was recorded live at the Blatz Music Festival in Portland, where Shubb was living at the time. In those years, Shubb had an ambition to be a full-time musician. However Wilson had a good job, a wife, children and a house, and wasn't ready to chuck the whole thing to go on the road.

And it wasn't long before Shubb invented the Shubb 5th String Capo for banjo, and then the compen-

But their days together include a lot of music-making, too. "Bob and I both have kind of an uncommon attention span, for a given song," Shubb said. "Even if we are just practicing, recording or not, we'll stay on a song longer than probably anybody you know and not get bored with it. You could do that in a studio but you are even aware of the engineer's attention span when you stay on a song that long."

Shubb said he and Wilson may only play together four times a year, "but it's pretty intense." "We'll sometimes take only two or three tunes, and play those. Not to the entire exclusion of other tunes, we'll hit some other tunes once, just to keep in shape, make sure we remember the arrangement. But if

we've got something in progress, where we're trying to get an arrangement we like, we'll do one song for three hours sometimes."

That aspect of their musical relationship led Shubb to buy the recording equipment and do the CD himself, rather than going into a commercial studio.

"(That was) to buy myself the luxury of time," he said. "So that I didn't feel like I was under the gun when I was in the studio, watching the clock and watching the pocketbook. The guitar and banjo we did at home on the ADAT (Warren added the bass tracks in a Van Nuys studio). That gave us the opportunity to very leisurely do retakes if we weren't happy with what we had, or to get ourselves into the proper frame of mind, whatever it took to get us to feel comfortable about recording."

In selecting material, Shubb and Wilson mostly picked songs they've been doing together a long time. A few were resurrected tunes that the pair had played years ago but hadn't done recently.

"We had worked up 'Lover, Come Back to Me,' years ago, and, I think, never performed it," Shubb said. "I think we just made a tape of it. When we started assembling material it just seemed like that one would fit in nicely, so we went back and learned it from our old tape."

As it happened, the CD pretty much ignores Shubb and Wilson's country repertoire. "We used the more jazzy material for the sake of continuity," Shubb said. "There was some stuff we'd been doing for a long time we could have put on

there, and some that we actually did record and not use, that was a little country. When we put the package together some of the country things didn't fit as well. So what we might do is record another one where they fit in better," he said.

The CD starts with "Take the Freight Train," which is a medley of train songs: a few bars of Elizabeth Cotton's folk classic "Freight Train" kicks off the track, then Shubb and Wilson segue into "Take the A Train," detour with a guitar break on "Chattanooga Choo Choo," touch base again on "A Train," then the "Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe," back to "A Train," and then fade out with another few bars of "Freight Train." All this is put together seamlessly with a wonderful sense of musical fun.

Four of the fifteen tracks are vocals. There is an amusing "Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson," an obscure novelty song written by lyricist Johnny Mercer and composer Bernie Hanighen for the 1934 movie "Gambling." Then Wilson does "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams" and "I Cried for You," while Shubb adds, "The Old Man of the Mountain," the title of which makes it sound like a country song, but it isn't. (It's actually a Cab Calloway song Wilson and Shubb found on an old "Betty Boop" animated cartoon.)

Such other 1930s and '40s standards as "Lullaby of Birdland" and "Ain't Misbehavin'" make up the other tracks.

"Bob and I have been to varying degrees a hot issue or a lukewarm issue or a non-issue depending on when you plugged into the scene over all these years," Shubb said. "But we still take pretty much the same approach we always did to music. At one time it probably seemed radical to people."

"Some people in the world of bluegrass tend to think you only do this a certain way, and if you don't, you are my enemy. That's pretty much gone now, and what we're left with is what we always were. Not particularly wanting to be iconoclasts, but playing the music in the style that we hear it, and exploring what we feel is a unique combination of our two playing styles. It's still unique... We're proud of it."

Distribution of the record will be a bit spotty. "How to sell it," mused Shubb when he was asked about it. "I wish I knew what the best way was. I know about selling capos; I'm really good at that. I put it in our catalog, but that mostly goes to distributors, and accessories are a real different line than recorded music. But some of our dealers carry recorded music as well as musical products."

Shubb said County Records has expressed an interest in stocking the CD and he expects to approach Down Home Music in El Cerrito. But to be sure, you'd have to write the Shubb Co. at PO Box 550, Valley Ford CA 94972. Or phone (707) 876-3001. It's worth a stamp or a phone call, I'd say.



Rick Shubb and Bob Wilson

Check out the New Deluxe Shubb Capo

The other news from the Valley Ford world headquarters of Shubb Capos is the Shubb Deluxe capo, which was introduced nearly a year ago.

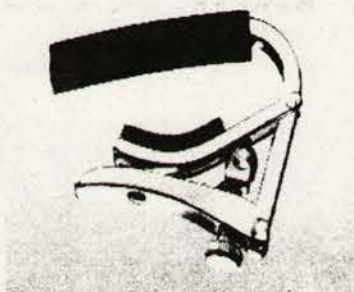
The original Shubb capo was non-adjustable for different guitar necks. I remember the first one I bought worked well on my Martin but was a little loose when I sold the D-28 and bought a Taylor, with its slimmer neck. Generation 2 of the Shubb capo had a little threaded gizmo that allowed the tension on the cam to be adjusted so the capo would grip virtually any size neck as softly or as firmly as you choose.

The new Deluxe has a little wheel that replaces the domed plastic cap screw that bears on the cam-shaped clamping arm. The principle is exactly the same, but the action is even smoother, "like buttah."

The Deluxe lists for \$29.95, \$11 more than the standard sells for. You'll have to decide if it's worth the extra money; you can certainly see the added manufacturing cost for the wheel, its axle, a little springy steel piece that the wheel mounts on, and even a new cam-shaped clamping arm that has a little track routed in it for the wheel to roll in. It's a beautiful piece of work and will no doubt last a lifetime, but except for the utter smoothness of putting it on, I don't notice any difference in performance. Still, when one is playing a \$3,000 banjo, what's 30 bucks?

Rick Shubb reported with some delight that there are now more than 1 million Shubb capos in existence, the milestone having been passed last year.

"We had a big party celebrating our 25th year in business, the selling of the millionth capo and the



new CD, all of which happened to coincide," he said.

Shubb was aware that he was nearing the million-capo sales mark and had a plan, but things didn't work out as he had hoped. "I was actually planning to make one out of solid gold," he said. "I have a jeweler friend who was going to make one and we'd auction it off to the highest bidder, and time the sale so it was our one-millionth one."

"But then I took a closer look at our records and realized we had already surpassed the one-millionth sale. So unless I wanted to falsify the figures, which I didn't want to do, it was too late for that."

Shubb was able to trace which distributor had received the shipment, and was pleased to find that it was the company that had become his first distributor, many years ago, M&A Sales Co. in Maryland. The Shubb company now deals with about 50 distributors around the world, of which, Shubb says, 20 or 30 are major ones.

This is all a far cry from 25 years ago, when Rick was just a banjo player who wanted a better way to clamp his fifth string when he capoed up to higher keys. The spring-based fifth string capos on the market in those days didn't work

very well, and Shubb didn't like the little HO gauge model railroad spikes many players use much, either.

"I tried to get some people interested who were already in the products business but I couldn't really get anyone's attention," he said. "It wasn't until I mentioned the idea to one of my banjo students, Dave Coontz, who is now my business partner, that things started to happen."

Shubb showed Coontz the drawings he had made of a potential capo, and Coontz, who was an auto mechanic, made a crude prototype, "just with a hacksaw and a file, out of aluminum, I think," Shubb recalled.

"We put it on my banjo and I was not the least bit reluctant to just slap it on there, see if it works," he said. "Actually it did, although it was clumsy and a bit bigger than it needed to be, so we refined it."

Several versions later, Shubb had a capo that worked and looked pretty good, and other players started asking him to make more. "So we just kind of snuck into business; we never really set out to go into business," he said. "I wouldn't say we really WERE in business, more than a hobby, until the guitar capo hit many years later. That took us from a mom and pop operation that we could both do easily in our spare time, to a business, where we really had to take it seriously."

By the time Shubb and Coontz came up with the compensated banjo bridge, which was the first time anyone had done that, and the guitar capo, Coontz had moved back to Iowa, where he still lives. There

(Continued on Page 14)



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Cindy Hawkins is pictured applying the rubber padding to the capos in the Shubb Capo Factory.

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May is Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month

Bluegrass fans around the world are making plans now to celebrate their favorite music throughout the month of May: Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month. A variety of local activities will proclaim the rich tradition and the growing popularity of bluegrass music, as well as introduce this American-born art form to new audiences.

Although bluegrass music is rooted in the Southeast United States, it became a nationwide phenomenon during the folk boom of the 1960's. By the early '70's, the music was embraced by fans in Japan and Western Europe. Today more than four million fans attend 500+ festivals in countries including Australia, Finland, China, Rus-

sia, and the Czech Republic - which actually claims more bluegrass bands per capita than the state of Kentucky.

Efforts to recognize the global appeal of music began in the late 1980's when bluegrass fans coordinated efforts to host a variety of special events in unconventional places in order to share the music with new audiences. Impromptu concerts have delighted listeners in airports, municipal parks, governor's mansions and many schools. Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month has been celebrated at major events from Vancouver to Atlanta, Tokyo to London, and inspired a number of city and state-wide proclamations.

In 1999, Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month will once again kick off the summer festival and touring season for many artists.

The following is a checklist of things that YOU can do to get ready for Worldwide Bluegrass Month Checklist:

- Personally introduce a friend to bluegrass by:
 - making a gift of a bluegrass CD or video.
 - inviting them to a show or concert.
 - giving a gift magazine subscription or membership.
- Hold a bluegrass jam session at:
 - an airport terminal.
 - a city park.
 - a university campus or cafeteria.
 - other non-traditional places.
- On the radio:
 - plan a special program that features international bands.
 - plan a tribute to a well-known local artist or person important to bluegrass in your area.
 - conduct telephone interviews for broadcast on your local radio show with artists scheduled to perform soon in your area.

- feature live music in the studio, if you have the facilities.
- write letters to local radio and television stations thanking them for programming bluegrass music, or explaining to them why they should. Request an information packet from IBMA on "How to Pitch Bluegrass Music to Commercial Radio."

- Set up displays about the history of bluegrass music:

- in city buildings.
- public libraries.
- at airport terminals.
- in the classroom. Provide ideas to teachers for bulletin boards depicting the bluegrass story, with local connections.
- on billboards or existing business signs, about May being Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month.

- Encourage media coverage:

- Write feature articles or letters to the editor at your local newspaper about Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month or other upcoming local bluegrass events.
- Write to cable and satellite television networks to thank them for current bluegrass coverage, and request more.

- Plan record store promotions with:

- in-store artist visits.
- signage & endcap displays.
- sales on bluegrass recordings.

- At your local acoustic music store:

- have a sale on strings and other acoustic accessories.
- offer one free first lesson on the bluegrass instrument of choice.
- host a "How to Jam" workshop for beginning music students.

- Write a thank-you note to:

- advertisers, sponsors and underwriters for bluegrass events and radio shows in your area.
- your favorite bluegrass bands.

- your local bluegrass radio broadcaster.

- the promoter of your favorite bluegrass festival.

- your IBMA board rep, with your suggestions of how the organization can more effectively promote bluegrass music and also how you would like to get involved personally.

- your local newspaper entertainment writer/reviewer who covers bluegrass music.

- Buy something at:

- your local retail record store that stocks bluegrass.
- a sponsor's business who underwrites bluegrass events and radio shows in your area.

- Plan an educational live bluegrass presentation for:

- music classes at a local elementary school.

- your local community college Music Appreciation class.

- Girl Scout or Boy Scout meetings.

- the May meetings of local civic, business or interest groups like the Lions Club, Jaycees and Rotary.

- residents of a nursing home or senior groups at church.

- the children's ward at a hospital.
- a local school for the handicapped.

- Consider joining:

- your local bluegrass association.
- IBMA. If you are already a member, recruit someone else who needs to be.

- the International Bluegrass Music Museum as a student, individual or family patron.

- Consider donating:

- bluegrass CDs to the music department of your local schools.

- bluegrass magazine subscriptions to high school, college or public libraries.

- a Bluegrass in the Schools Implementation Guide, along with the Traditional American Music video & lesson plan available from IBMA to your child's school music department. Encourage school leadership or the local PTA to apply for an IBMA Bluegrass in the Schools matching grant for a live bluegrass educational presentation.

- historic bluegrass music memorabilia to the International Bluegrass Music Museum.

- to your local public radio station that programs bluegrass music, and specify that you are a bluegrass music fan.

- Organize:

- a bluegrass club at your local high school or college.

- introductory group instrument classes for children at school, the Boys Club, or the Family Y.

- a proposal and contact your state governor or city leadership about officially designating May as Worldwide Bluegrass Music Month.

Editor's note: Thanks to the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) for this reminder on Bluegrass Month and how we can help promote and celebrate it. For further information on the IBMA and its activities, write to: IBMA, 207 East 2nd Street, Owensboro, KY 42303 or call 502-684-9025.

Shubb capo

(Continued from Page 13)


he runs the factory that makes the Shubb products and ships them to California for finishing, packaging and shipment.

Capos come already nickel plated and need only the rubber and plastic parts installed, and to be packaged. The resonator guitar steels come unplated, and are done in chrome by a California shop.

But it is the capos that drive the company. They came out in 1980 and, said Shubb, "almost immediately changed the scope of our business."

"I didn't really do anything I can remember to publicize it," he said. "We stuck a couple of little ads in the only magazines we could think of, Bluegrass Unlimited and Pickin'. But mainly just word of mouth, took that capo and made it a big deal, for which I am grateful. "Sometimes it's still amazing to me how the world just found it."

*George Martin



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Listing of Recording Projects Being Compiled for 1999 IBMA Awards

When the professional members of IBMA receive their first nominating ballot in June for the International Bluegrass Music Awards, the ballots will be accompanied by a reference list of recorded CD and cassette projects known to have been released during the eligibility period established for this year's awards.

IBMA is again providing this informational service for members who may not be familiar or have access to actual release dates of recordings, and we are requesting the help of recording companies, artists and producer members in compiling the list.

To include a project on the reference list send the following information in writing for each recording: Recording title. Featured Artist/Group, Record Label, Catalog Number, Release Date (Month/Day/Year).

To be eligible for the 1999 International Bluegrass Music Awards

to be presented on October 21, 1999, in Louisville, Kentucky, a recording project must have had its first release between April 1, 1998, and March 31, 1999.

Since IBMA will establish the eligible recordings list before the first ballots are printed and mailed, your information must be received at the IBMA office in Owensboro no later than April 15, 1999. Even if you have sent IBMA information on recordings in the past year, please supply the specific information again, since prior information may not have established an exact release date.

Because this reference list will probably not contain every recorded project released during the eligibility period, IBMA members are not limited to titles on the list when making their nominations.

Mail Information Before April 15 To: IBMA Awards Committee, 207 East Second Street, Owensboro, KY 42303 or Fax: (502)686-7863.

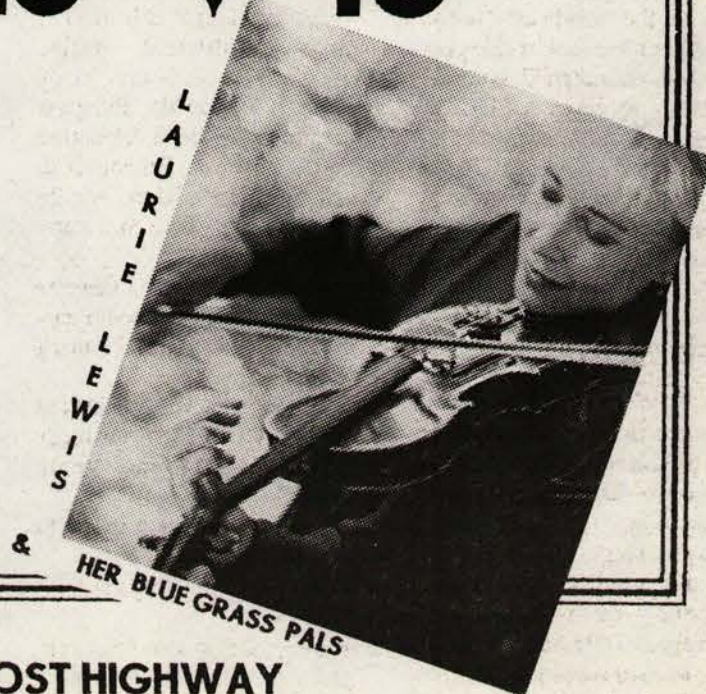
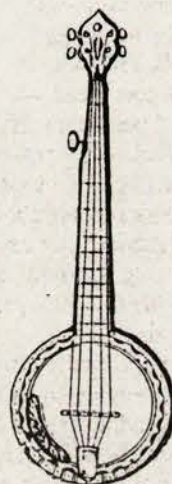
8TH ANNUAL

'99 MARIPOSA COUNTY BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

MAY 14 ♦ 15 ♦ 16



LYNN MORRIS BAND



LAURIE LEWIS & HER BLUEGRASS PALS

ALSO FEATURING:

BLUEGRASS PATRIOTS ♦ LOST HIGHWAY
WITCHER BROTHERS ♦ SIDESADDLE & CO. ♦ BRUSHY PEAK

cut here

Please send the following tickets for Mariposa's 8th GOLD RUSH BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL May 14-15-16

	Quantity	Price	Total
★ 3-Day Festival Pass (ordered/postmarked ON OR BEFORE May 5, 1999)		\$40	
★ 3-Day Festival Pass (ordered/postmarked AFTER May 5, 1999)		\$45	
Friday (May 14) only		\$16	
Saturday (May 15) only		\$18	
Sunday (May 16) only		\$16	
Saturday & Sunday (May 15 & 16) only		\$30	
Children under 16 FREE with paying adult		\$00	
		Total	
RV w/Hook-up - \$12 night Thurs <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat <input type="checkbox"/> Total Nights		Total	
★ 3-Day Festival Pass includes Country Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday		Total Enclosed	

CHILDREN
UNDER 16
FREE
WITH
PAYING ADULT

Indoor/Outdoor Facilities - Rain or shine - No Refunds

Payment Method: VISA/MC/AMEX

Card Number: _____

Exp _____

Phone Orders: 1 800 903-9936

FAX Order: 209 966-3962

Check/Money Order Payable to: Mariposa County Arts Council ♦ P. O. Box 2134 ♦ Mariposa, CA 95338

Name _____ Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

Address _____ City _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

MARIPOSA
COUNTY
ARTS
COUNCIL
INC.

INFO & TICKETS

1 - 800 - 903 - 9936

MARIPOSA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Indoor/Outdoor Facilities ♦ Rain or Shine ♦ No Refunds

Luthiers To Exhibit At CBA's 1999 Father's Day Bluegrass Festival

The Fathers Day Bluegrass Festival has come a long way since it's beginning. It has grown and evolved with a succession of greatly appreciated volunteers doing the jobs that must be done to make the festival happen. The concessions and stage have been moved into the inner fairgrounds to the delight of most folks, and a few years back the new restrooms/showers were added to the grounds to ease the burden on the old restrooms/showers.

Change and growth have been happening in Michael Lewis' instrument booth also. Last year there were two repairmen on duty, Michael Lewis, who is a service center for the Martin Guitar Co., and Steve Bagwell, who worked at the Taylor Guitar factory for a number of years and is a service center for just about every other brand of guitar. If you were at last year's Father's Day Bluegrass Festival you may remember that several members of the Sacramento Valley Luthiers Guild exhibited their wares at Michael Lewis' Booth. This has now grown to more than a dozen exhibitors and been moved into a building, and shows potential to grow considerably more.

This year Michael and Steve will again be ready for most repairs and adjustments to your instruments, from A-style mandolins to Zithers, and Michael should have some new mandolins ready to sell.

Monte Hendricks will be giving banjo related workshops and

showing his impeccable banjos, and Michael will be giving workshops on making and repair of guitars and mandolins. Their workshops can be very focused or wide ranging, depending on the audience participation.

There will most likely be some

good jams because of the proximity of so many good instruments.

All of the exhibitors are members of the Sacramento Valley Luthiers Guild, or Northern California Association of Luthiers, and many are also members of Guild of American Luthiers, and Association

of String Instrument Artisans, which are based in the U.S. but have members from all over the world. All of these organizations welcome members of any skill level from novice to seasoned professional, and promote the free exchange of informa-

tion in order to raise the level of knowledge and skill and consequently the quality of instruments being made. Come see for yourself.

More about this Luthiers exhibit next issue.

CBA's Web Site Up-dated/new easier to find URL coming soon

by Eric Janson

The California Bluegrass Association web site located at <http://www.mandolyn.com> has grown over the last year. As the webmaster I would like to think all of you who have contributed to the site this year.

There is a big move ahead, the CBA is finally getting a home with a recognizable web address (URL). As soon as I receive notice from InterNIC that the URL registration process has finalized, I will be moving the site to <http://www.californiabluegrass.org>. I will leave a link from the old URL to the new site to allow everyone time to reset their bookmarks.

If you have not visited the CBA web site, or have not visited it for a while, I invite you to take a look. The updated site now includes RealAudio samples of CDs reviewed by the CBA reviewers, along with new links to other bluegrass related web sites. In addition we now have a page for notices from bands, special events, and other email sent

to the CBA that is informative or note worthy. I solicit your input, articles and suggestions. This site belongs to each and every member of the CBA. My goal is to make it the best on the net, reflecting the pride and dedication the CBA has towards the music it supports.

If you have trouble accessing the site, the problem may be that you are using one of the older web browsers. The CBA web site uses Java scripts and applets that are not recognized by the older browsers. This can easily be corrected by downloading the new Internet Explorer 4 or my favorite Netscape 4.5. I have links to upgrade your browser on <http://www.mandolyn.com/cbaweb.html>, this page uses minimal Java and should be accessible to all (even the older) browsers. AOL users can get the new AOL browser from the AOL web site. If you still have problems feel free to email me at eirc@mandolyn.com. I will be more than happy to help.



Monte Hendricks during a workshop at the 1998 CBA Festival

Photo by Howard Gold

24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival Band Performance Schedule

Thursday, June 17th

10:15 - 11:00 a.m.	Within Tradition
11:10 - 11:55 a.m.	Special Consensus
11:55 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Break and Workshops
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.	Crooked Jades
1:55 - 2:40 p.m.	Sand Mountain Boys
2:50 - 3:35 p.m.	Northern Pacific
3:45 - 4:30 p.m.	Mac Wiseman
4:30 - 6:15 p.m.	Dinner Break and Workshops
6:15 - 7:00 p.m.	5 for the Gospel
7:10 - 7:55 p.m.	Kathy Kallick
8:05 - 8:50 p.m.	Osborne Brothers
9:00 - 9:45 p.m.	Sand Mountain Boys
9:55 - 10:40 p.m.	Mac Wiseman

Friday, June 18th

9:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Crooked Jades
10:25 - 11:10 a.m.	Northern Pacific
11:20 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	Kathy Kallick Band
12:05 - 1:11 p.m.	Lunch Break and Workshops
1:10 - 1:55 p.m.	5 For The Gospel
2:05 - 2:50 p.m.	Within Tradition
3:00 - 3:45 p.m.	Special Consensus
3:55 - 4:40 p.m.	Osborne Brothers
4:50 - 5:25 p.m.	Cloggers
5:25 - 6:25 p.m.	Dinner Break and Workshops
6:25 - 7:05 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass
7:15 - 8:00 p.m.	Mac Wiseman
8:10 - 8:55 p.m.	Mountain Heart
9:05 - 9:50 p.m.	Osborne Brothers
10:00 - 10:45 p.m.	Sand Mountain Boys

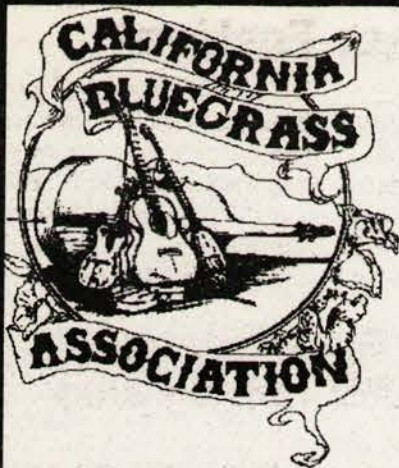
Saturday, June 19th

10:00 - 10:45 a.m.	Witcher Brothers
10:55 - 11:40 a.m.	Tim Graves and Cherokee
11:40 - 12:55 p.m.	Lunch Break and Workshops
12:55 - 1:40 p.m.	Mountain Heart
1:50 - 2:35 p.m.	Dave Evans and River Bend
2:45 - 3:30 p.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out
3:40 - 4:15 p.m.	Cloggers
4:15 - 5:15 p.m.	Dinner Break and Workshops
5:15 - 5:50 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass
5:50 - 6:10 p.m.	Board Introductions and Presentations
6:20 - 7:05 p.m.	Country Ham
7:15 - 8 p.m.	Dave Evans and River Bend
8:10 - 8:55 p.m.	Mountain Heart
9:05 - 9:50 p.m.	Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers
10:00 - 10:45 p.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out

Sunday, June 20th

9:30 - 11:20 a.m.	Gospel Show
11:30 - 12:15 p.m.	Country Ham
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch Break and Workshops
1:15 - 2:00 p.m.	Witcher Brothers
2:10 - 2:55 p.m.	Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers
3:05 - 3:50 p.m.	Dave Evans and River Bend
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.	Tim Graves and Cherokee
4:55 - 5:40 p.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out
5:50 - 6:35 p.m.	Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers

Performance schedule subject to change due to performers' travel problems and other factors which may occur and are beyond our control. Final schedule will be published in the Festival Program.



24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

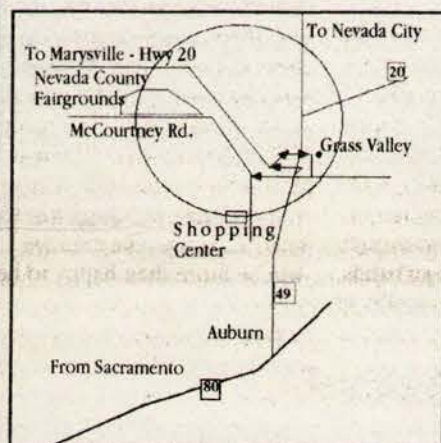
June 17, 18, 19 & 20, 1999

At the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

ADVANCE DISCOUNT TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Featuring... • The Osborne Brothers • IIIrd Tyme Out • Mac Wiseman •
• Dave Evans & River Bend • The Sand Mountain Boys •
• Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers • Mountain Heart

• 5 For the Gospel • Country Ham • Crooked Jades • Tim Graves and Cherokee • The Kathy Kallick Band
• Kids on Bluegrass • Northern Pacific • Special Consensus • Witcher Brothers • Within Tradition
PLUS -- 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. For Handicapped Camping reservations, call Festival Coordinator Lolan Ellis at 510-521-6778.
- 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**

~ Advance Ticket Order Form ~

Advance 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 Advance Discount tickets is June 7, 1999. No Discounts available at the gate.

Advance Tickets (3/1/99 - 6/7/99)

CBA Members Only

4-Day	\$60
4-Day Senior (65 & over)	\$55
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$35
3-Day (Th-F-Sat)	\$50
3-Day (F-Sat-Sun)	\$45
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Th-F-Sat)	\$30
3-Day Teen (13-18) (F-Sat-Sun)	\$30

Non-Member Ticket Prices

4-Day	\$65
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
Saturday	\$25
Sunday	\$15
Children 12 & Under FREE	

Please send me the following tickets to the CBA's 24th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival:

CBA Member Advance Tickets

_____	4-Day Adult @ \$60
_____	4-Day Senior @ \$55
_____	4-Day Teen @ \$35
_____	3-Day Adult (Th-F-Sat) @ \$50
_____	3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @ \$45
_____	3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) @ \$30
_____	3-Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) @ \$30

Non-Member Tickets

_____	4-Day Adult @ \$65
_____	4-Day Teen @ \$40
_____	3-Day Adult (Th-F-Sat) @ \$55
_____	3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @ \$50
_____	3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) @ \$35
_____	3 Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) @ \$35

Single Day Tickets

_____	Thursday Only @ \$20
_____	Friday Only @ \$20
_____	Saturday Only @ \$25
_____	Sunday Only @ \$15

CBA Member No. _____

Date of Order _____

Total Enclosed _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Join the CBA and receive member discounts! Complete the form on page 2 and enclose your membership dues with your ticket order. Mail to the same address.

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

Southern Utah Fiddle Championships and Bluegrass Music Festival

by Terry Griffin

"Where the heck is Kanab?" That's what all my friends said when I moved to this small community in the midst of Southern Utah's Vermilion Cliffs region. Someone else said, "You can't get there from here...you have to go somewhere else, first! Why, you can't even take a Greyhound over there!"

And that's true enough. But once you get here, you're right in the middle of 3 National Parks and several National Monuments and state parks, Zion, Bryce Canyon, North Rim Grand Canyon, Lake Powell, Grand Staircase Escalante, Coral Pink Sand Dunes to name a few! And the town itself is the site of many western and other movies everyone would recognize. The Lone Ranger and Tonto rode Silver and Scout all over these red sand-

stone hills. Matt Dillon and Miss Kitty, Butch Cassidy and Sundance still haunt the area. You can still visit the movie sets for "Gunsmoke" TV series, the movie "The Outlaw Josie Wales" and more. Many of the local establishments decorate their walls with autographed photos of famous movie stars including John Wayne, Fess Parker, and even the Rat Pack to name just a few. What an ideal setting for a bluegrass festival!

The first annual festival (Southern Utah Fiddle Championships and Bluegrass Festival) is set for July 16, 17 & 18, 1999. The whole town is pulling out all the stops for an event to be remembered. It will be held this year outdoors at the Middle School, right in the center of town. Campers are invited to the festival

site on Thursday, with the festival shows beginning Friday at noon. Jamming is welcome around the clock.

There will be contests for fiddle, banjo, mandolin, flatpick guitar, and bluegrass band. A Movie Star look-alike contest is planned and one can see folks dressed up like John Wayne, Miss Kitty, Tonto, and Tom Mix all over town during the festival. Local folks and festival attendees will judge this one! Dave Pelletier of the Hat Band from Prescott AZ will MC. Between the contests the entertainment will include the 1997 International Pizza Hut Winners the Marty Warburton

Band from Nevada, the Andy Rau Band from California, the Mike and Bertie Band from Colorado, and the local Slickrock String Band will host the show providing the traditional old-time string band music. During the day there will be music workshops, and after the show each evening, a jam / party downtown with open mike on the outdoor stage at a local "stagespot."

The concessions on site will offer food, handmade crafts and quilts, festival memorabilia, and more. Inside the Middle School, there will be a quilt show and a fine art show. RV parks and motels in the area are planning special festi-

val rates for those who don't care to "rough it" and/or plan to come early / stay later to visit the wonderful nearby attractions. Transportation to the parks by van, and around town by horse drawn wagon is available.

Information on the festival, and surrounding area attractions (and maps to the area) can be acquired by calling 435-644-5330, 800-551-1714, or e-mail frontier@xpressweb.com, or you can see all the info and even print a registration form at our web site at www.utahadventure.com/fiddle/index.htm.

Ya'll come.

1999 Oregon and California Late Summer Bluegrass Festival dates/performers announced

by Dale Lawrence

We're happy to announce that not only will the Late Summer Bluegrass Festival take place again in Plymouth, California, but in addition, we will be producing an Oregon Late Summer Bluegrass Festival in Hood River, Oregon.

As many of you know, we solicit customer comments every year, and due to overwhelming requests, the Late Summer Bluegrass Festival will be held in September this year. The almost unbearable heat of mid-August in Plymouth and the gazillions of flies left over from the County Fair have made conditions less than ideal for the past few years. By moving to September, the weather should be cooler and the flies will be gone.

Dates for the California Late Summer Bluegrass Festival are September 16 to 19, 1999 and the location will still be the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, California. You can look forward to enjoying the talents of Blue Highway, Laurie Lewis, Lost Highway, Rincon Ramblers, Bladerunners, Witcher Brothers, One Riot One Ranger and many more. And we are in the process of securing a special headliner that no one will want to miss.

As usual, there will be a Kids on Stage set, many vendors and new to the event this year will be a craft fair. Once again this year we are going to leave set time available on Friday and Saturday for an early camper jam band competition (kind of like a band scramble). Send in your entries for the competition to the festival address at the end of this article.

Now for those of you who can't wait for September, make plans to attend the premier Oregon Late

Summer Bluegrass Festival, August 19 to 22nd at the Hood River County Fairgrounds in Hood River, Oregon. The fairgrounds is in the shadows of Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams in the picturesque Hood River Valley near the Columbia River Gorge. It offers ample camping on the lawn and no dust, as well as lots of other amenities.

Entertainers for the Oregon festival include Laurie Lewis, Lost Highway, Mountain Heart, Sam Hill, One Riot One Ranger, the Grasshoppers, Bladerunners and many more to be added. And we are in the process of securing a special headliner that no one will want to miss. In addition, special events are being planned including a chili cook-off, apple pie bake-off, craft fair, beer and wine tasting. As a special treat for early campers, we are arranging a ride on the Mt. Hood Railroad train, a fully restored antique train that rambles from the Columbia River to Parkdale and back.

A special note to all of our friends who have made the Late Summer Bluegrass Festival so popular, you should be receiving a notice of special discounts for accommodations and other services at Hood River and a discount on admission to help offset your travel expenses in the mail soon.

We are very excited about our festivals this year — these will be two festivals you won't want to miss, especially when we publish the remaining line-up.

For information or tickets, please contact Dale Lawrence Productions at 1923 NE 134th Place, Portland, OR 97230 or phone 503-408-7692.

by Elena Corey

Presentation is a media buzzword now which gives employment to a lot of folks—folks who set up glitzy display booths at trade shows, folks who offer dazzling multimedia reports to business colleagues and potential customers, folks who design food plates to entice diners, and even musicians who offer their songs and tunes for themselves and others. Museums require a sizable amount of space around pictures, to set them off, visually to best advantage. It is said that a steak may taste the same whether it is served on a plastic plate on a bare card table as it does on gleaming china with sparkling crystal, a linen tablecloth and real polished silver—but that the taste buds of the person eating are brought to dizzying heights of anticipation and increased pleasure with gracious, elegant trappings surrounding the fare. Salesmen have long known that they sell the sizzle, not the steak.

If you're just sitting around on your front porch, playing music for your own amusement, you may not see any reason you should concern yourself with its manner of presentation. I can understand that. But the minute a curious neighbor wanders up and starts listening, our inner critic interrupts our leisurely amble through our favorite repertoire. Thoughts like, "Hmm, this sounds a lot like the one I just played. Maybe I ought to substitute another, different sounding, song just for now and come back to my old favorite later" pester us until we heed them. Perhaps we are more likely to leave out the extra measure just prior to a verse's beginning, which we'd thrown in to clear our throat or catch an extra breath, in favor of not breaking time, if someone is listening to us.

Several psychological theories expound upon reasons for our irrepresible urge to try to please oth-

ers by displaying things for their attention as attractively as possible. Most folks don't fight such urges—we comb our hair, brush our teeth and give some consideration to our vocabularies in consideration of an implicit expectation that people will like us better if we do. But when it comes to presenting our music to others, many of us display a proprietary air that is suspiciously parental, and says to other people, "If you don't like my creative offspring—my brainchildren—the way they are, then forget you."

On the other hand, some of us become so obsessed with other people's approval of our musical selections that we put our own pleasure last. One facet of human nature which feeds this need for approval is selective attention. You know—you buy a yellow VW Bug and subsequently, you notice a lot more of those on the road than you did before.

One aspect of selective attention is known in congenitally-inbred theory circles as "The Missing Tile" theory—i.e. if you look up at a tile ceiling and one tile is missing, your eye is immediately drawn to that space. Looking up where the missing tile ought to be can become obsessive behavior, causing us to miss out on appreciating the perfectly fine other tiles (or recordings or live performances), as well as to develop cricks in the neck if we tilt our heads back long and persistently enough.

Theories about such momentous things say that the inner critic in us is driven and burns to identify one small flaw in everything. This feeds our fear that we are inadequate, if we turn it on ourselves, or it can reassure us that no one else is perfect either, if we apply it mostly to people we hear. Our inner critic rushes eagerly to find the one thing which is missing in any "performance" and then concentrate on its lack.

We might be listening to a gravely voiced bluegrass wailer/bawler with suitably insistent "rhythm-prominent" back-up. The critic whispers insidiously to us that "the Most Important Quality In A Performance (MIQIAP) is a silky-smooth voice—either human or violin or dobro (excuse me, resonator guitar—shimmering hub-cap)." Our critical side is drawn to the lack, and so, our inner critic tells us, "Although Ms. Blues exhibited considerable lung-power, a tolerable pitch range and an astounding depth of emotion, she showed no mastery of smoothness or control, no velvety intoxication with melodious serenity, yet might have been saved by the addition of at least some sweetening influence on the recording."

Similarly, if the musician is mellow, mild-tempered in exuding the song's message, modulated or soft-spoken, and liquid smooth in lyrical flow, our critic may be moved to sum up the performance as "Lacks power." You get the picture, the MIQIAP—any performance, becomes the opposite of what the performer offers—what one quality the performance lacks. It's a tough job fighting human nature, and the critic inside us all carries on continually, keeping us aware of the MIQIAP that is missing, regardless of what we sing, play or hear.

One trick in getting past this fear-driven urge is to refuse to think of our playing as a performance, unless it, in fact, is. Then when we are actually performing, presentation factors such as set design are less resented and resisted. This becomes more difficult for stellar musicians who "drop in" to a jam—even their casual jam contributions are viewed more critically by listeners. Whereas if they stay home and play only for themselves, they only have to think of presentation factors when they actually choose to perform for others.

"Bluegrass Signal" Broadcast schedule for April & May

Thanks to Peter Thompson for the following schedule of his radio program. Bluegrass Signal is broadcast on KALW (91.7 FM), Saturdays, 6-7 pm. Producer/host: Peter Thompson asks listeners to submit their requests or comments via e-mail to: <bgsignal@worldnet.att.net> or P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA 94620

- April 3 — MUSICAL PREVIEWS of the season's first festivals, plus a number of notable Bay Area concerts; music from Lynn Morris, Laurie Lewis, Lost Highway, Eddie & Martha Adcock, Laurel Canyon Ramblers, Sidesaddle & Co., David Parmley & Continental Divide, Bruce Molsky, Dry Branch Fire Squad, and many others.
- April 10 — DIX BRUCE & JIM NUNALLY, a couple of hot guitar pickers, celebrate the release of their second album with a live, in-studio session.
- April 17 — THE FAMILIES THAT PLAY TOGETHER ... The Paisleys, McCourys, and Stanleys all offer great father-son bluegrass. Their

new music (and more) are offered to you for your support of Bluegrass Signal and KALW.

- April 24 — TAKE US OUT TO THE BALL GAME: The baseball-bluegrass connection, as demonstrated by Sam Bush, Kathy Kallick, Chris Thile, and others. Make the connection yourself by phoning 1-800-KALW-917, and supporting great radio.
- May 1 — HIGHER COUNTRY: The long-awaited solo album by mandolinist BUTCH WALLER, "Golden Gate Promenade," just in time for his release party next Saturday at the Freight.
- May 8 — WALKING THE DOG: as the bluegrass world pulls for CHARLES SAWTELLE, the innovative guitarist and soulful singer, a survey of his music with Hot Rize, Red Knuckles, The Whippets, Peter Rowan, and others. Go, Slade!
- May 15 — A celebration of JIM &

JESSE and THE OSBORNE BROTHERS, among the very few of still-active first generation bluegrass musicians.

- May 22 — Most of DOYLE LAWSON

& QUICKSILVER's early albums have recently been re-released, so we'll sample some of the smoother side of bluegrass today.

- May 29 — LAURIE LEWIS' blue-

grass album should be out by now; have a listen to the music, along with a conversation with a Bluegrass Pal.



BLUEGRASS CAMPOUT

Join your fellow musicians for
a fun filled weekend
May 21st thru 23rd, 1999 at
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park
in Cobb Mountain, CA
50% discount on camping rates
for all musicians!
For further information, directions and
reservations,
CALL 1-800-307-CAMP
<http://www.campyogi.com>

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MUSIC MATTERS

People who offer their music to the world, i.e. in recordings and public performances, come to expect their work to be compared to a standard of perfection, and this can be an exciting challenge or it can gradually sap the pleasure from public playing. It is not remarkable that many performers who have played professionally for years will tend to avoid casual jamming—they don't always want to take time to set their "steak" on fancy china and get out the good silver—they just want to play for fun, sometimes.

In live performance or recording, design and presentation assume higher priorities—and this topic has been addressed in numerous previous articles, e.g. "Set Design" in Bluegrass Unlimited, several years ago. Knowing which factors count as fine china, glassware and silver to set off a performance appropriately involves many insights. Some of these are usually acquired by trial and error, and some of them may be learned vicariously, from others' experience.

One question to ask yourself is: If you dine alone, with no one observing you, would you still give yourself the fine china, crystal stemware, etc., or would you grab a peanut butter sandwich and eat it on the counter top while you do something else? If you find that your dining pleasure is enhanced by beautiful trappings—even when no one sees you, then perhaps your music might also benefit from gracious and elegant presentation—just for yourself.

Virtual Band

A Bluegrass Method For Banjo, Guitar, Fiddle or Mandolin AND NOW FOR DOBRO!!!

"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, 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, (100, 150, and 200 beats per minute), 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. 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, with the words included, so it's easier to see.

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
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- **Picking direction** and **Bass runs**

Separate recordings and books are available for the **banjo, mandolin, guitar, fiddle and dobro**, working together with *matching arrangements*, so that everyone can play the *same tunes* 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 Pickin'!

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Jay Buckey, 4017 N. Torrey Pines, Las Vegas, Nevada 89108 (702) 396-7824

The Rose I Remember

by J.D. Rhynes

They say time heals everything especially when our hearts are broken and wounded by the loss of a loved one dear to us. For some folks this may be true, but for myself I find that the loss is never, ever completely healed.

Things just seem to get better but I've never ever been able to forget the loss completely.

It doesn't seem possible that a year has passed so quickly since the First Lady Of Country and Bluegrass Music passed away. But yet it's true, for on the 15th of this month, one year ago the angels carried the soul of my friend Rose Maddox to heaven to be with her brothers and a star-studded hill-billy band. My, what a celebration they must still be having!

The Rose I remember gave all of the Vern Williams band members a big hug and a kiss after playing our first set ever with her. She proclaimed us the best band she'd played with since her brothers had quit. That was on Columbus Day weekend of 1979.

The Rose I remember played her first Bluegrass Festival with us at the Ghost Mountain Festival in Pollock Pines, California in 1980. The first of many she played with us.

The Rose I remember recorded two highly acclaimed albums with the Vern Williams Band, on the Arhoolie Label. The first in 1980 was "This is Rose Maddox With The Vern Williams Band". The second, an all gospel album titled "Beautiful Bouquet", a year or so later.

The Rose I remember could sing like an angel. When we were recording the song "Amazing Grace" on the first album with Vern, it would bring me to tears every time she sang the verse; "When we've been there 10,000 years bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun". During a break in the middle of recording that song Rose quietly came to me and asked, "Honey, what's wrong?" I told her that for some reason when she sang that verse it just made me cry. She put her arm around me, gave me a squeeze, and said, "Why honey. You're supposed to when Rose sings it like that".

The Rose I remember was the consummate professional when she was on stage. I've never seen a performer that could hold an audience in her hand the way she could. You had to pay attention every second you were on stage with her for you never knew what she was going to sing and by the second stomp of her foot to set the tempo, you had to be on it like a chicken on a June bug!

The Rose I remember could ad lib on stage better than anyone I've seen before or since. During one of

four encore numbers one night at the Peter Britt Festival in Jacksonville, Oregon, Mike Seeger was standing in the wings motioning to me that he wanted to play on the next song with us. Rose was talking to the audience and I leaned over and whispered in her ear; "Mike Seeger wanted to come out and pick with us". Without missing a beat, she said: "Folks I've got a surprise for you tonight. Mike Seeger is going to pick with us on this next song. Mike — get out here!" So with her signature foot stomping to set the tempo, we kicked off the number, and as usual she burned it down.

The Rose I remember was also the consummate friend. (I can still remember the biscuits and gravy she fixed Vern and I for breakfast.) Whenever she needed a place to hide from the world, to get away and relax where she knew she wouldn't be bothered, my home was hers. Those late night jam sessions with Vern and the Boys on my patio still ring in my heart and in my mind. Such magic years gone all too soon, oh how I wish I could hear those again. I could go on and

on for hours about my Rose, but time and space doesn't allow it here at this time.

The Rose I remember thrilled and entertained our Father's Day Festival audiences nine times over the years. She was our most requested performer by her fans.

The Rose I remember was probably the most gracious person with her fans that I have ever seen. She genuinely enjoyed talking and visiting with all of them. She once remarked to me; "They're like family to me because this is the only life I've ever known".

These are just a few of the things that I remember about my friend Rose. Like I told my good friend Steve Waller as we stood by her casket for the last time, "Her passing marks the end of an era. We'll never see her like again in our lifetime."

Rose honey, you may be gone from this earth, but you left behind a legacy that very few Country and Bluegrass artists will ever match. I know your legions of fans will never forget you. Your place in country music is forever indelible stamped. Thank you so much for the wonder-



Rose Maddox and J.D. Rhynes backstage at the 1997 CBA Festival.
Photo by Howard Gold

ful times we all had together with you.

In closing, I'd like to recite the last verse of the poem I wrote about you.

*My Rose is the first lady of Country music,
As everybody knows.*

And she came from God's own garden,

And He only made one Rose.

May God rest your soul and I look forward to that great day when we are all reunited together again to sing the praises of our Lord forever and ever.

J.D.'s Bluegrass Kitchen

Howdy, Howdy, Howdy!

I can't believe that a month has already gone by and its time again to sit down and write a few paragraphs about some good vittles. I've got the fire built up real good this morning, so pull up a chair, get yourself a cup of good Cowboy coffee and we'll visit a spell here by the cook stove.

This has been the coldest winter in many years here in Calaveras County. As a consequence I've spent a lot of "cabin fever" days indoors and I usually ended up cooking a good, substantial supper. Either I've put on about 20 pounds this winter or someone is sneaking in my closet and putting smaller clothes in there!

But I ain't worried because come war, spring weather there's brush to be cut and burned, cement to pour, and the sawdust will be flying as I finish the remodeling of my building into a BIG workshop. So I know those excess winter pounds are going to be gone by summer time.

I've got so many projects lined up for this summer that come next winter I'll be lean and mean and ready to "hole up" for a long winter's rest again. However, ol' man winter hasn't left the mountains as I write this, because I had about 6" of snow here last week. I'm fed up with El Niño and La Niña and wish they'd go somewhere else for about 50 years! (Like Texas would be OK.) But, I'd bet money that J.R.

Schoggins' mandolin pickin' would run 'em off right quick! It's been a while since I mentioned ol' J.R. here in print, but I know Ken Reynolds, John Murphy and Harold Crawford will agree with me on this.

About two or three years ago J.R. and Ellen moved to Texas, the other state that claims to have invented Chili. I'll agree that they make some mighty fine Chili down there in the Lone Star State and the folks are mighty hospitable too. They also have some of the best Mexican food in the world there and the first recipe featured this month came from a restaurant in Austin, Texas named El Sol y La Luna. (Which in English means, The Sun and The Moon.)

I got this recipe out of the January 20, 1999 edition of the Stockton Record. I had eaten this dish a couple of times in years past in various cafes, but was never able to find a recipe for it. I couldn't believe it when I saw it in the paper, so I clipped it out and whipped it up for breakfast the following week. This makes a wonderful breakfast for two hungry Cowboys.

Migas

2 tsp. Olive oil
3 corn tortillas, torn into dime-sized pieces
1 cup diced onions
1 jalapeño pepper, seeded and diced
1 clove garlic, minced

1/2 cup diced red tomatoes
1 tsp. Oregano
4 eggs, beaten
1/2 cup prepared tomato salsa
1/2 cup shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
1/2 tsp. Salt

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add tortilla pieces and sauté for 2 minutes, or until they start to turn crispy. Add onion, pepper and garlic; sauté for 1 minute. Add tomatoes and oregano and continue to sauté. Add eggs and stir to scramble until eggs are set. Remove from heat and add salsa, cheese and salt. Stir gently until cheese melts. Serve immediately with warm corn or flour tortillas. Makes 2-3 servings.

Now this is the way to start off a good day! Especially if the tortillas are fresh homemade ones! My favorite Mexican restaurant is Mi Ranchito on south Center Street in Stockton, California. When you have a meal there it always includes hot fresh, homemade tortillas. If you've never had them, then I can't tell you about their heavenly flavor. It's something that you have to experience to know what I'm talking about.

If you're ever in Stockton, stop by Mi Ranchito and have a great meal along with their fresh homemade tortillas. They're just two blocks south of the cross-town freeway on Center Street. And, J.R., don't be such a cheapskate — take Ellen up to Austin to El Sol y La

Luna for breakfast some weekend. Have the Migas and let me know how they are. OK? Heck it only looks to be two or three hundred miles on the map.

While we're on the subject of hot spicy foods, here's a recipe that my friend Pat Conway sent to me awhile back. Let me warn you in advance, this is one HOT dish! This is an African recipe for pork stew and its really unique as it uses sweet potatoes in it, but boy is it good!

I don't eat pork, so I substituted Turkey for the meat, but it was still mighty larrupin! For you folks that like a hot pork dish, here's how to make:

African Fire Pork Stew

12 small dried red chilies
3 lbs. Pork butt, trimmed of excess fat and tendon, cut in 1-inch pieces (about 3 cups chopped pork meat)
2 large onions, cut in large dice
6 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
6 jalapeño peppers, seeded, stemmed, and coarsely chopped
1/3 cup peanut oil
2-inch piece ginger root, peeled and coarsely chopped
2 TBS. paprika
2 tsp. Each ground nutmeg, coriander, cinnamon and allspice
2 TBS. dark brown sugar
5 cups unsalted beef broth or stock
3 cups peeled and chopped tomatoes, or a 28-ounce can tomatoes
1/4 cup roasted peanuts

(Continued on facing page)

J.D.'s Kitchen

(From previous page)

4 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 3/4 inch pieces
1/4 cup red wine vinegar

Cut the dried chilies in boiling water and soak for 2 to 3 hours or until they are soft. Drain and coarsely chop. Set aside until needed. Cook the pork, onions, garlic, and jalapeño peppers in the peanut oil over high heat for 7 to 10 minutes, stirring all the while. Add the ginger, spices, and sugar and cook over moderate heat for 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add the beef broth and bring to a boil over high heat. Add the tomatoes, peanuts, and reserved chilies, reduce the heat to moderate and cook for 1 hour, stirring from time to time. Add the potatoes and vinegar and cook for 25 to 30 minutes or until the meat and potatoes are tender. Season with salt and pepper and garnish with chopped parsley to taste. Serves 9.

Now this will definitely warm you up on a cold winter or spring day! And Billy B. Don't be complaining that its too hot, just cut down on the chilies!

A couple of weeks ago I dropped into a second hand store on Sutter Hill which is run by one of the local churches. I stop in occasionally to check and see if there are any cast iron pots and pans worth buying. I also check out their collection of cookbooks on sale.

About once or twice a year I'll find a cookbook that is worth having. This month was one of those times. The book has no cover and is well dog-eared from lots of use and I got it for 50¢. What a deal! This is obviously an old book and has recipes that I've only heard of but couldn't find in some of the more "modern" ones. The following is one of these recipes and I sure love it.

Eggs Mornay

1 1/2 lb. Pkg. Cheese, Cheddar, etc.
1/3 cup milk
1/4 tsp. Salt
1/2 tsp. Dry mustard
6 hard cooked eggs, sliced
1 12-oz. Pkg. Frozen Asparagus, cooked
6 slices bread, toasted

Combine cheese, milk and seasonings in a double boiler over hot water. Heat, stirring frequently until cheese is melted and sauce is smooth. Arrange eggs and asparagus on toast. Top with cheese sauce and serve at once. Makes 6 servings or feeds one normal banjo picker. (Or one abnormal banjo picker, as the cast may be!)

Well folks, there are a couple of wonderful ways to start off the day with a great breakfast and a stew that is so hot you'll wonder why you love it! I hope you enjoy

(Continued on Page 22)

1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend "CAMP RUDE" Bluegrass Festival

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RECORDING REVIEWS

You Asked For It Broad River

Independent Label
CD 347298.10
Contact: Hughie Wylie
292 Gresham Rd
Douglasville, GA 30134

Songs: *Homeward Bound, Little Mountain Church House, It's Pickin' Time, Duncan And Brady, Dark Mandolin Night, Talk It All Over With Him, Ghost Riders In The Sky, Walk The Way The Wind Blows, Canaan Land, Blue Ridge, Steel Rails, Building On The Rock*

Personnel: Gerry Hall - guitar, lead, tenor and baritone vocals; Hughie Wylie - mandolin, lead and baritone vocals; Roger Robinson - banjo, lead and bass vocals; David Anderson - bass, lead and tenor vocals

By Ken Reynolds

This CD is one I received from a regional band out of the Douglasville, Georgia area. The name of the group is Broad River and they play a lot of festivals in Georgia, and neighboring states.

I became acquainted with their mandolin player, Hughie Wylie, over the Internet about a year or so ago. Hughie started his music career at the age of three, playing square dances with his father. Over the years, his playing and contributions to the Southern music scene, resulted in his induction in the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame. When Hughie was talking about the recording session they had just completed, I asked if he might consider sending me one to review. (I never miss a chance to hear a new group).

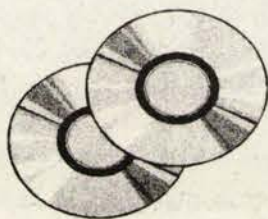
I wasn't sure what I would get with this CD, but as I started listening to it I found that it had

some good songs on it. The group has included three original tunes on this album for your listening pleasure. "Homeward Bound" was written by banjo player Roger Robinson. Hughie wrote "It's Pickin' Time" and "Dark Mandolin Night". Broad River does a great arrangement on a song that one doesn't usually associate with bluegrass. I'm sure you have never heard "Ghost Riders In The Sky" done the way this talented group does it.

For you fans of gospel music, the group has included songs like "Little Mountain Church House", "I'll Talk It All Over With Him", "Canaan Land", and an a capella version of "Building On The Rock".

As you listen to the album, you're going to hear some solid vocal harmonies and great picking.

This Southern group picks bluegrass music with an attitude. To get your hands on this one, contact Hughie Wylie at the address listed at the top of this review and treat yourself to some fine bluegrass done Southern style.



Echoes Of The Past Buzz Matheson & Mac Martin

White Oak Records
WO 104
P.O. Box 253
Finleyville, PA 15332

Songs: *Darling Do You Know Who Loves You, On The Old Kentucky Shore, Angels Watching Over Me, I Can See That You're Living A Lie, New Memphis Blues, Childish Love, One Teardrop And One Step Away, Jesus Will Save Your Soul, I've Always Been A Rambler, Bluegrass Stomp, Have No Desire To Roam, I Could Cry, The Old Chain Gang, I'll Just Pretend, Cincinnati Rag, Emotions, Just When I Needed You, If You See My Savior, Rose On God's Shore, Take My Ring From Your Finger, We Can't Be Darlings Any more.*

Personnel: Buzz Matheson - mandolin, lead guitar, lead and tenor vocals; Mac Martin - rhythm guitar and lead vocals; Pat Matheson - bass.

By Ken Reynolds

Echoes Of The Past is just what the name implies. It features the "brother duet" country/bluegrass type of singing of Buzz Matheson and Mac Martin. This CD was put out by White Oak Records of Pennsylvania.

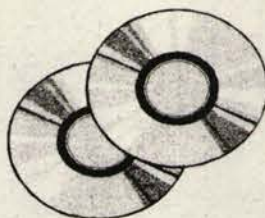
Mac Martin was a long-time fixture in the country and bluegrass community of Western Pennsylvania and is considered to be a true pioneer in this style of music. For years now Mac has had his own bluegrass band, The Dixie Travelers. This group specializes in the sound and style of 1940s/50s era bluegrass bands.

Buzz Matheson is known throughout Ohio as a creative 3-finger banjo stylist. On this project he plays mandolin, which gives this CD that old time feel. For a project that utilizes only a guitar, a mandolin, and an acoustic bass for instrumentation, this CD delivers a rich, full sound.

The vocals on this CD are masterfully done and rate right up there with the likes of the Monroe Brothers, the Louvin's, and other great duets of the past. As I listened to this CD, I couldn't help but think about my friends in the California Bluegrass Association like Bob James and Ernie Hunt and Jake Quesenberry who have been playing this type of music for as long as I can remember.

This album goes back to the pure roots of what our beloved bluegrass music is all about. You get 21 great songs for your money. A bargain at any price.

If you are like me and enjoy the old brother duet style of singing, I highly recommend that you add this one to your collection.



Home Sweet Home Steve Palazzo

Whiffletree Records
WTR 166
Contact: Steve Palazzo
331 Union St.
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(408) 426-7255

Songs: *I Heard The Bluebirds Sing, Home Sweet Home, Sunny Side Of Life, Lonely Tombs, One Dime Blues, Are You Tired Of Me My Darling, Weary Blues, Road To Columbus, Texas Girl, Whiskey Before Breakfast, Come Back Darling, Fuller Blues, Satisfied Mind, Ragtime Annie, Three Times Seven, Colored Aristocracy, I Am A Pilgrim.*

Personnel: Steve Palazzo - guitar, vocals; David Grier - guitar; Diana Donnelly - harmony vocals; Amy Haberman, harmony vocals; Joe Kimbro - mandolin, harmony vocals; David Rengers - mandolin;

Mike Osgood - mandolin, baritone vocals; Mark McCormack - banjo; Jim Hilden - banjo; Joe Weed - fiddle; Pat Mahoney - fiddle, harmony vocals; Billy Rudock - bass, bass vocals.

By Ken Reynolds

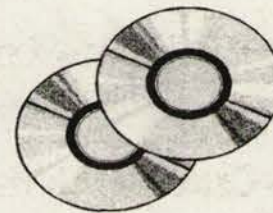
I just received this CD from Santa Cruz, CA based musician Steve Palazzo. The title of the album is "Home Sweet Home" and it is packed with a variety of musical styles ranging from bluegrass, blues, and country influenced tunes.

Steve is probably better known from his work in Northern California bands such as Indigo, and more recently the bluegrass band Homefire.

On this project Steve utilized a variety of top musicians to help him out. I think you guitar players out there will really enjoy the great flat-picking tunes where Steve and David Grier team up and lay down some solid picking. There are five such tunes on this CD. They are the title cut "Home Sweet Home", as well as "Road To Columbus", "Whiskey Before Breakfast", "Ragtime Annie" and "Colored Aristocracy". On three of the songs, Steve uses the Homefire band to back him; "Are You Tired Of Me My Darling", "Come Back Darling" and "I Am A Pilgrim".

The song "I Heard The Bluebirds Sing" features Diana Donnelly, (a founding member of the, once all girl group Sidesaddle) singing harmony with Steve. A nice combination.

There is some great picking and singing on this project. If your taste goes beyond traditional bluegrass music, you should contact Steve at the address listed at the top of this review and see how you can get your hands on this one.



By Request Jimmy Trivette

Jamsu Music- Jamsu 4951
To order contact: Jamsu Music
307 Speaks Road
West Jefferson, NC 28964
or call (336) 246-6106

Songs: *House Of The Rising Sun, Blue Moon Of Kentucky, Bury Me Beneath The Willow, Crying Holy, The Day God Gave You To Me, Kentucky Waltz, Mama's Crown, By The Side Of The Road, I Know What It Means To Be Lonesome, Just Said Goodbye To My Dreams, Buckets*

Of Rain, Love Letter In The Sand.

Personnel: Jimmy Trivette - lead and harmony vocals; Steve Lewis - guitar, banjo, mandolin and vocals; Randy Greer - guitar, mandolin, vocals; David Pendley - mandolin, vocals; Sue Trivette - guitar, vocals; Scott Freeman - fiddle; Tony Testerman - bass; Tim Lewis - banjo; Charles Welch - vocal.

By Ken Reynolds

Just got this CD from my good friend Jimmy Trivette. This is his latest solo project on the Jamsu label and was produced by former band member David Pendley and Wesley Easter.

Jimmy was with a band called Ric-O-Chet, based out of North Carolina for many years. Ric-O-Chet played the Grass Valley festival on three different occasions. The group has now changed the name of the band to Last Run.

If you are one to the many fans of this talented group, you will be pleased to find out that they are in the studio now working on another project.

I was really thrilled to get this CD as Jimmy has been one of my favorite vocalists since the first time I heard him sing. He has a powerful, soulful voice that is uniquely his own, and is well suited to bluegrass music.

Jimmy is backed up on this project by band members of Last Run and, I assume, some guest artists including Jimmy's wife Sue.

There is some outstanding music presented here. The picking and singing on the CD is about as good as it gets, in my opinion.

You are going to hear some solid picking by Steve, Randy, David, Tony, Sue, Scott, and Tim on this project. These folks are all top notch musicians.

I would have to say that my favorite on this album is "The Day God Gave You To Me". This is a beautiful love song written by Jimmy. He is joined vocally by his wife Sue and Steve Lewis. Another great original song on this album is "Mama's Crown"; written by none other than Jimmy's bride Sue Trivette. Just thought I would tell you that Sue has a great voice in her own right.

Jimmy does a lot of classic songs on this projects such as "Blue Moon Of Kentucky", "Bury Me Beneath The Willow", "Crying Holy", "Kentucky Waltz", and "By The Side Of The Road". They have also included some fine arrangements on songs like the Bob Dylan song "Buckets Of Rain" and the traditional "House Of The Rising Sun".

If you are a Jimmy Trivette fan, you will want to add this one to your collection. If you have not heard Jimmy sing, get your hands

J.D.'s Kitchen

(Continued from Page 21)
these as much as I do.

We've gotten to sit here around the fire and visit for a while. I poked some fun at my ol' pals J.R. and Billy B. Let's all meet here next month and hopefully the weather will be nice and warm so I can build up a big camp fire outside and put on a big pot of Cowboy Coffee. Then I'll throw a couple of big Tri-tips on to cook nice and slow over a nice bed of Manzanita coals. How's that sound?

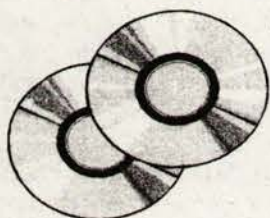
Until next month, may God grant you all peace and health.

Yer friend,

J.D. Rhynes

RECORDING REVIEWS

on "By Request" and you will soon be a fan of this talented man.



The Broken Road Jeff White

Rounder Records
CD 11661-0445-2
One Camp Street
Cambridge, MA 02140

Songs: *The Broken Road, Lone-some As It Gets, Stay Away From Me, Cliffs By The Sea, Rich Gal, Bet On An Angel, Cheater's Heart, The Struggle, This Lonely Heart Of Mine, I'll Make My Way, I'm Not A Stranger To Love, I Wonder, The Only Girl, The Fiddle In The Trees.*

Personnel: Jeff White - guitar, vocals; Vince Gill - mandolin, harmony vocals; Jeff Guernsey - fiddle; Mike Bub and Barry Bales - bass; Pete Wernick - banjo; Jerry Douglas - dobro; Alison Krauss - harmony vocals on "Cliffs By The Sea", "The Struggle", "Cheater's Heart"; Dawn Sears - harmony vocals on "I'm Not A Stranger To Love"; Jason Carter - twin fiddle on "Stay Away From Me".

By Ken Reynolds

The Broken Road is the latest release by Jeff White on the Rounder Records label. This CD is full of good hard driving bluegrass music provided by Jeff and a stellar group of musicians.

I have to admit that when I got this CD, I didn't know who Jeff White was. After listening to it several times now, I know that he is one of the finest vocalists in the bluegrass music scene today, in my opinion.

The first time I listened to this CD, I was about half way through the first cut, "The Broken Road", when I knew I was in for some top notch music.

When one looks at the musicians that appear on this CD, you just know the picking is going to be totally awesome.

There is a lot of original material on this project. Jeff co-wrote ten of the fourteen songs on this album.

The title cut, "The Broken Road" and "I'll Make My Way" was written by Jeff and Pete Wernick. Jeff and Pete teamed up with Dawn Sears to write "I'm No Stranger To Love". I could go on and on, but in short folks, there's not a bad song on this album.

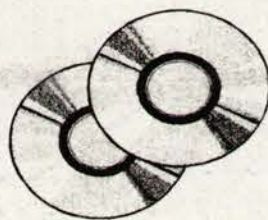
The songs that I enjoyed most was "The Broken Road", "This Lonely Heart Of Mine", (written by Vince Gill) and "The Fiddle In The Trees", (written by Pete

Wernick).

The song selection, the vocal harmonies, and the picking on this album is as about as good as it gets.

If you have never heard Jeff White, let me tell you folks, do yourself a big favor and get your hands on this CD and treat yourself to super bluegrass music performed

to perfection.



California Hills Sidesaddle & Co. Faultline Records

Songs: *Merina, California Hills, Squaredance Saturday Night, Highway Of Sorrow, Walking Up A Hill, Pain In My Heart, Genesee, Heartbreak Hill, The Moon Is High*

And So Am I, Dark As A Dungeon, Sandy Land, Rooster Bill, Red Hot Sallys, In The Pines, How Mountain Girls Can Love.

Personnel: Jerry Ashford (guitar), Dave Ristim (banjo), Kim Elking (mandolin), Lee Anne Welch (Continued on Page 24)

8th Annual

Wolf Mountain Bluegrass Festival

July 30th - August 1st

At the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

Featuring:

• **Vern and Ray** -- That's Vern Williams and Ray Park, with Herb Pedersen, Ed Neff and Steve Pottier. Vern and Ray are responsible for popularizing bluegrass music in California during the 1960's, and have continued to serve as a major inspiration to musicians since that time. They parted in the 1970s to pursue individual paths in the music, but will be back together this weekend along with their original banjo player Herb Pedersen. Herb has gone on to develop his own career, becoming not only the leader of several popular bluegrass and country bands but one of the most sought after studio musicians in bluegrass and country music.

• **Laurel Canyon Ramblers** -- Enjoying the success of their third CD: *Back On The Street Again* (currently #12 album and #14 song — *Bluegrass Unlimited*), the Ramblers will be up from Southern California to join us for the festival weekend.

• **Sam Hill** -- This Pacific Northwest favorite will be back again this year. They feature a lot of original material by mandolinist Jeff Smith and excellent harmony singing with guitarist Doug Salmon and Jeff's lifelong buddy Dave Chulupsky (they're married to sisters!).

• **Crane Canyon** -- This collection of San Francisco Bay Area musicians brings together about a thousand years of bluegrass performing (or at least Ed looks like it). Several of the top California side-men combine with the powerful Clarence White influenced guitar of Evan Morgan to provide a real solid 5-piece bluegrass band. The depth of this group is evidenced by the instrumental prowess as well as several strong harmony combinations.

• **Blade Runners** -- This young group from Southern California has found the secret to bluegrass music. They have developed the power and drive, and have discovered how to put feeling in the music. Come discover this great new band.

• **High Country** -- Thirty years of hardcore bluegrass music has been provided by this group, and there's no sign they're giving it up anytime soon.

• **Crooked Jades** -- This group has created a music all their own. To simplify you could say they play bluegrass and old-time music, but that doesn't even begin to describe the creative talent that has gone into this band's recordings or what they present during their stage show.

• **Lone Prairie** -- "The Cowboy Band", as they are affectionately referred to, provide a great mix of soaring harmonies and instrumental spice. They'll take you back to the wide open prairies and the land of sunsets (campfire optional).

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Further Travels of a Bluegrass Junkie

by M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper

On Thursday the 18th of February, I flew to Atlanta and boarded a 50 passenger jet to Asheville, North Carolina. Arriving at 10:30 p.m. (half an hour earlier than the scheduled time). Meanwhile, John Duncan flew to Charlotte, North Carolina, rented a car and drove to Asheville, and was there when I landed. No trouble driving the 10 miles or so to the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort one of only 17 of its kind in the world, a world-class resort mini-city. Four years ago, Milton Harkey and Larry Saye reserved this hotel for two days of the best bluegrass music money can buy. As the main stage area only holds 800 people, they sell out every year for this "Winter Special" in the month of February. Carl Pagter and I went to the first one, and because he has opted to be somewhere else since then, John has shared a room with me. The North Carolina nurses, Joan McLeMore and Sheila Talbert, have been our "next door neighbors" every year since. And this year their friends and mine, Earline and Nemp Hughs from Statesville, North Carolina were on the other side of John and me — we were surrounded by nurses and missed a good opportu-

nity to get sick!! Anyway, we all enjoyed our stay there enough to reserve rooms for next year.

On our way from the airport to the Holiday Inn, John found a store where he could get some food that fit into his new diet and I got some milk and rolls for breakfast for the next 3 mornings. It was near midnight before we got checked into our room, but Joan and Sheila were in their room next door to us. Since hadn't seen each other since last October in Louisville, Ky., we all had a nice visit before going to bed. It was 3 a.m. and every night of our stay there, John and I seemed to be up until about that same time! As the shows on the main stage started at 1 p.m. the next 2 days, we got plenty of sleep.

As I have said before, Milton Harkey not only books the best bands money can buy at his events, he seems to get more shows out of them. A case in point: Friday at 1 p.m., the Freight Hoppers started everything off with their fast, crowd pleasing type of old-time music with frailing banjo and fiddle tunes (as you probably know, since we had them at our Father's Day Festival last June) and everyone enjoyed them. They played and sang the

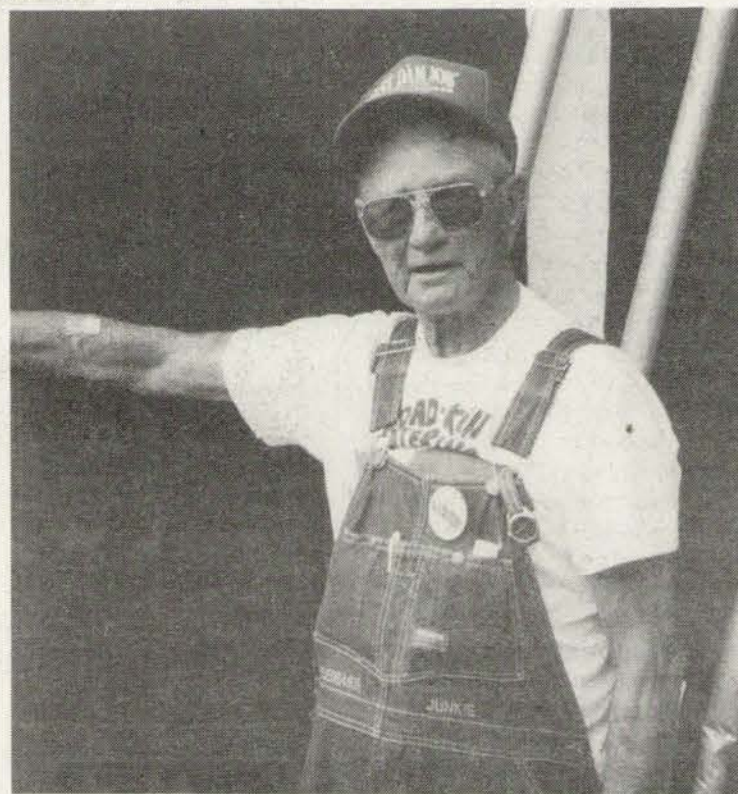
better part of an hour. As did Lou Reid and Carolina, who with Gina Britt playing banjo, had a young Brian Stevens on guitar and Jeff Deaton on bass. Jeff is Illrd Tyme Out bass player Ray Deaton's son. All good solid pickers. As Lou Reid is also a regular member of The Seldom Scene, he got a "work-out" both days.

The Reno Brothers were the third band to go onstage, and as they have played in California for the last few years, you know that they are hard to beat as musicians and singers. I am glad that they call me their friend, even if Don Wayne kept me up that night roaming the halls, listening to jams, and visiting. He just barely got breakfast the next morning, before they all left for another gig. The fourth group was Del McCoury and his award winning musicians — the hottest and best liked band on the road today. They closed out the afternoon show on the main stage.

After supper break, all four bands played on the sunken stage at the Fireside Lounge, before the 8 til 12 Midnight shows back on the main stage! This evening the "mystery band" played a set too. Turns out that it was Mountain Heart with former Doyle Lawson sidemen Barry Abernathy, Steve Gulley, and Jimmy Vancleve, with Alan Perdue on mandolin and Johnny Dowdle on bass — what a bonus!! They will play at our Father's Day Festival this June (another reason for everyone to get their tickets early and plan on attending our Grass Valley doin's).

I told you that Milton really gets the best bands — and uses them more than anyone else I know. He also has local bands on stage while the main shows are playing. And as you know: North Carolina has some of the best bluegrass pickers and singers in the world, and a good bunch of them come to this event.

If it is possible to top Friday's line-up, Milton did it. The shows were started off by The McPeak Brothers — no better brother harmonies than theirs. The Seldom Scene, who have three lead singers that take a back seat to no one Dudley Connell, Fred Travers, and Lou Reid followed with "straight ahead singing" no wobbly notes here. Straight gut-wrining stuff this day! I know you all are used to hearing Lou and Dudley, but Fred Travers and his Dobro may be new to you. Before I ever saw Fred, I had already bought everything he had recorded. So it wasn't hard for me to become one of his life-long fans a few years ago. Since he has become a member of The Scene, I've heard a lot more of his lead and harmony singing across the country. Needless to say, I sat through and enjoyed everything they did in all three sets that day as they kept the hair on the back of my neck sticking out (a hard thing to do, as it is awfully short).



M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper

A hard act to follow — not many bands can do it successfully — but J. D. Crowe and The New South can and did. The newest member of the band, guitar playing and lead singing Rickey Wasson was up front doin' a lot of the bluegrass that I love (what a great voice he brought with him out of Kentucky), with the help of Curt Chapman on bass, Dwight McGill-mandolin and vocals, Phil Leadbetter on Dobro, and, of course J. D. Crowe on banjo. J. D. is not only the best traditional bluegrass banjo player in the business, he sings harmony the way that I enjoy hearing so much — even the Merle Haggard songs he plays are bluegrass enough for me.

The closing band of this day's music in both the afternoon and the evening has been to Milton Harkey's Bluegrass First Class in Asheville all four years. This was none other than the Lonesome River Band — no strangers to any of us, as the last couple of years they have won almost every award at one time or another. They are part time contemporary, part time gospel, part time traditional bluegrass, and full time entertainers. I didn't miss any of their 3 shows, even staying for the very end of 2 near perfect days. This was topped off the next day (Sunday morning) by Paul Williams & The Victory Trio — who, by the way also played in the sunken lounge Saturday evening.

If there was a downside to this weekend, it was that it was impossible for me to hear every song that was sung in The Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort. And it was hard for me to leave old friends, as well as new friends like Russ Jordan (Host of "Goin' Across the Mountain" on WNCW 88.7 FM, Spindale, N.C.), and Nelson Hopwood from Maysville, Ky. (who has "Wooville on the Web", that provides infor-

mation on upcoming concerts, etc. and is a very good representative for the Festival Of The Bluegrass, Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky; he already has a report on Asheville for anyone that pulls it up by going to: <<http://members.spreed.com/wooville/reviews.htm/>>). I already knew Nelson through the Bgrass-L list out of the UKY.EDU, but it was my gain when we finally met in person.

I also got to talk to Milt Pappas who represents County Sales, from whence a lot of us get recordings of our favorite bluegrass bands. We have known each other for some time, and at Bass Mountain last year when I told him I had trouble signing off Bgrass-L, he told me how to do it, and also sent me written instructions. I think of him everytime I head-out on another trip — I can nomail very well now!

Anyway, I said it was hard for me to leave good friends, so John and I stayed until Monday morning (that way, we let every one leave Sunday). He dropped me off at the Asheville airport around 9:30 a.m., for the first leg of my return home. In the two days we had heard some of the best music one can "cram" into such a short time. It felt like four days of non-stop music, and I'm not so sure that it wasn't.

Thanks to all those that planned and worked so hard to bring ones like myself together for music which was as good as it gets. John and I and all of our friends have renewed our reservations at the Resort for next year. If you would like to be there with us, call the hotel and reserve your room soon, as there is seating for only 800 people. Also it might be a good idea to give Milton Harkey a call, so he can put you down as being one of the "lucky" ones accepted.

RECORDING REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 23)

(fiddle) and Beth McNamara (bass).

By Michael Hall

Sidesaddle & Co. fans all agree: Their favorite band goes into the studio far too little, but when the band finally does release a new session CD, it's worth the wait. Since 1979 (the 20th anniversary party will be this fall), the band has produced only 5 studio recordings.

True to the group's form, "California Hills" was over two years in the making. The recording is the first studio session reflecting the band's mid-1990s addition of men to the formerly all-women line-up. Jerry Ashford (guitar) and Dave Ristrim (banjo), join Kim Elking (mandolin), Lee Anne Welch (fiddle) and Beth McNamara (bass). Lisa Burns has since replaced McNamara in the current Sidesaddle line-up.

Sidesaddle continues to be the South Bay's most popular band. The "good friends" and "good times" that characterize live Sidesaddle appearances comes through in this CD. The band mixes bluegrass standards (In The Pines, Pain In My Heart, Highway Of Sorrow) with tasteful acoustic renderings of country and alt-country tunes (Squaredance Saturday

Night, Dark As A Dungeon, Heart-break Hill). Along the way, some old-time tunes (How Mountain Girls Can Love, Sandy Land) mix with Roger Miller's humorous The Moon Is High And So Am I.

Six of the album's 15 tunes are Sidesaddle originals. Lee Anne Welch contributes Merina, a classic fiddle tune written to entertain its namesake child. Jerry Ashford's title song is the best known of his originals and a local bluegrass anthem, while Walking Up A Hill is a lively instrumental that features Ashford's legendary guitar picking. Kim Elking's mandolin original Rooster Bill adds to her collection of barnyard-inspired offerings. Elking's Genesee is a loving depiction of her younger years in Genesee, California (like Lake Wobegone, Minnesota — not on any map!). Beth McNamara's Red Hot Sallys reminds us that things are not all what they seem — flowers that look beautiful until they are too closely examined.

With the menfolk on board, this isn't your mother's Sidesaddle. If you haven't heard this band lately, you haven't heard this band. Sidesaddle & Co. will appear at the 6th Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival, July 9-11, 1999.

Sidesaddle & Co., 613 Rosa Morada Road, Hollister, CA. 95023, (831) 637-8742, lisaonbass@aol.com

Bluegrass News Magazine for England's North West Area

by Elena Corey

Derek and Jean Brandon live in Chester, England and they promote and produce The North West Bluegrass News. The NWBN serves as both a magazine and a non-profit, volunteer organization, devoted to improving the lot of bluegrass musicians in the area, and "to help improve and develop the bluegrass scene in the N. W. region of England by improving communication."

Derek is also the web master of the organization's web site and also of the British Bluegrass Music Association's web site as well as (with Jean) organizer of the Chester Bluegrass Pickers Club. In addition to these gigantic music-related responsibilities, Derek actively pursues other interests such as ham radio and caravanning, and he maintains an interest in spelunking.

Like all magazines, the NWBN has found that the growing use of on-line reading has opened many new doors and expanded the sphere of influence considerably. Derek says "We first put NWBN on the Internet because we had something to say and it costs almost nothing to say it." He explained that the on-line offering of the newsletter brought their little corner of the world to the attention of bluegrass fans - and tourists - worldwide. He says, "We have visitors to our clubs and festivals from the USA as a direct result of the web site."

Derek believes that people are attracted to the NWBN web site because it has much high quality content (very frequently updated), there are some good photos in it, there is tablature with discussion notes, TABRITE files and MIDI files and it is fast, being low on fancy graphics which aren't needed. In addition to current and recent past on-line editions of the newsletter, the web site features a wide array of other appealing, and eye-catching features, a strong mission statement and summary information on funding, distribution, expenses and benefits of sponsorship.

Derek and Jean recently retired and began putting a lot of effort into making the bluegrass magazine the best of its kind in the area. The NWBN has received several articles from American writers, and the magazine occasionally re-publishes an especially useful article which has appeared elsewhere. All these are factors in the exponential growth of the magazine. They send complimentary copies to area radio station programming managers, festival organizers and area representatives of the British Bluegrass Association as well as some bluegrass "stars" to raise the profile and awareness of the NW area and its' bands and clubs. Copies are also taken to area concerts and given out, to interest

new people in becoming sponsors and in getting involved in bluegrass.

The NWBN offers feature articles, listing of bluegrass on area media, notation and TAB of music,

instrumental workshops, festival listings and up-coming promotional blurbs for bluegrass events, letters to the editor, editorials, news items in brief regarding things which relate to the music, performance and

recording reviews, want ads, a list of sponsors who contribute to the support of the organization, with notes of their locales to help people interested in the music to find each other. Each issue consists of 20

pages of A4 format, with about 16,000 total words per issue. It offers color cover photos. At the present time, the NWBN is printed free of charge by a volunteer, and

(Continued on Page 26)

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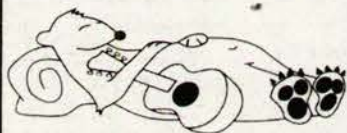
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STUDIO INSIDER

More about Recording Vocals in Bluegrass

by Joe Weed

Welcome to April! The sky is still light now when I close the studio and crawl up to the house for dinner. That means that festivals are coming soon, along with the great jams and music parties of summer. I'm ready!

Here at Highland Studio we've had several CBA members come in for projects and overdubs. John Lytle mastered his guitar/tenor guitar duets with his son, Anson. Listen for the album's great fiddle cameos by the legendary Byron Berline. George Kincheloe, producer/guitarist, and his client Joseph Pulitzer have just begun a project, and Menlo Park singer-songwriter Benita Kenn has laid down the first tracks on her solo album.

I'll be off soon for a week Way Down Upon the Suwannee River to work on a documentary about Stephen Foster. Although Foster never saw the place, his "Old Folks at Home" immortalized this river in

northern Florida; his piece eventually became Florida's state song. I'll take the family along, and we'll call a houseboat our home as we play our fiddles, dodge 'gators and watch for manatees at (where else?) Manatee Springs. More about the Suwannee later.

Back to recording... Where were we?

This month's column will continue the focus on recording vocals in bluegrass. We've been covering the use of compressors, mic choice and placement, and keeping the singer happy and productive during a session. Now we'll move to

the topic of equalization, something that can help you get a great vocal sound without sending a bag of problems on to your mixing or mastering engineer.

The low-cut...

The most common equalization (i.e., "tone") problem I encounter when mixing or mastering tracks that were recorded by less experienced engineers is the build-up of low frequency energy, usually on the vocal tracks. Plosives are way too prominent. I hear my speakers shuddering whenever the lead vocalist sings a "p" or a "b." Chest tones that are picked up strongly

from mics placed too close to a singer muddy up the timbre of the voice.

When mixing tracks that have this problem, use equalization to cut those low frequencies that are too heavy. The challenge is to remove them while not coloring the rest of the vocal track. When using a hard disk recording and mixing system, it is relatively easy, although somewhat time-consuming, to find the offending places and treat just those spots with a selective application of EQ (i.e., equalization, or "tone controls.") When mixing from tape, that job becomes more difficult. A fully automated console

allows us to apply corrective EQ at just the right moments to just the right tracks. If you use a console that doesn't remember little details and do them for you in an automated fashion, then you must carefully find a corrective EQ setting that fixes the low frequencies but doesn't eviscerate the vocal tone, taking out its richness. And if you are trying to fix these problems at mastering (when all the tracks have been mixed together), low frequency cuts will of necessity affect the bass and guitar as well. Not a pretty picture!

(Continued on Page 27)

Bluegrass News magazine

(Continued from Page 25)

the magazine doesn't accept advertising. Publication time is usually bi-monthly, to accommodate the flow of events and volunteers' available time.

Regarding organizational use of the Internet to promote and preserve bluegrass, Derek offers many comments worth considering. One of the things he stressed was, "It is no good if the information isn't bang-up-to-date; you need a diligent Webmaster who will pester people for information, because they won't think to send it to him."

Derek and Jean are both hobby/weekend musicians and they say that music has been a great influence in their lives. They visit California yearly, since their daughter, Pamela, lives and plays music with her group in San Francisco. They also know folks in the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society, and have played such interesting places such as Smiley's Schooner Inn in Bolinas and at the historic St. Charles Saloon in Columbia.

To get acquainted with this hard-working editor and bluegrass lover, visit his web site. The Brandons plan to visit California again in May and will be happy to meet their new CBA friends in person. In the meantime, pictures and a write-up of their last California trip can be found at: <http://www.nwbn.freemove.co.uk>

The BBMA website is at <http://www.BBMA.freemove.co.uk>

The Five Mile Chase

Key of G The Yellow-Haired Laddie Corporal Casey's Favorite Arr. by Steve Kaufman

Corrective action

The full, rich part of a vocal track resides in the lower frequencies, although not as low as the problem spots of plosives. However, these areas overlap in many instances, so using EQ to fix them often means making compromises. As you can see, it would be better to avoid these issues altogether by recording the vocal track properly. The best way to avoid those overpowering lows is to place the mic farther from the singer and use a good pop filter. Also, singers can be coached to direct their plosives off to the side, so they won't blast the mic's diaphragm.

If you find that when you're recording a vocalist there are still excessive lows even after taking these measures, then try using a low frequency roll-off, or "high-pass" filter. Try setting it at 80 Hz (Hz stands for "Hertz," which has nothing to do with being #1. It means "cycles per second.") A lower setting, say, 60 or 70 Hz, may work too, but a higher setting usually ends up affecting the timbre of the voice, especially in a male vocal. Some microphones have a low frequency attenuation circuit built in, with a switch on the mic to activate it. In general, it's a good idea to use it when recording vocals, but if you're not familiar with the mic you're using, listen to it both ways before you decide whether or not to use it.

Many engineers prefer to record whenever possible without applying corrective EQ. If microphone choice or mic placement can eliminate the need for EQ, then they prefer those options, feeling that EQ circuits always dull the sound somewhat. In many cases I think they are right. Very good equalizers are expensive tools. The equalizers built into inexpensive consoles have improved greatly over the years, but it's still preferable to record, if possible, without needing to use them.

What about the high end?

Another problem that shows up on vocal tracks is excessive high frequencies. This is due to many causes, some of which may not be readily apparent, so I'll discuss them a little here.

In the real world (i.e., outside of the recording studio!), when we have a conversation with someone, we don't normally stand with our ear up against their mouth. When we talk with someone, there is some space between us, and the sound from their mouth has to travel

through that space before it gets to our ears. During that trip, the sound is affected by its environment. The high frequencies are attenuated (reduced) by the air and the surrounding absorptive surfaces. Background sounds mask them, further diminishing our perception of them. These high frequencies are attenuated more than the mid-range and low frequencies, so the image that we get at our ears has the "highs rolled off" somewhat.

How intimate do you really want to get?

When you set a microphone in front of a singer, it's usually in a spot where we very seldom place our ear. The voyage of the sound from the singer's mouth to the microphone is very short and direct. There is not much opportunity for the environment to absorb the highs before the sound hits the mic. If the studio is sound proof and quiet, then the masking effect of background noises won't hide the highs. The result of all this is that the image the microphone gets will contain much more high frequency information than what we get when we have a conversation.

So what does this mean?

It means that when you record a vocal track, it will probably contain more high frequencies than what we normally hear when we listen to voices in the real world. Sibilants ("s" sounds), fricatives ("f" sounds) and other high frequency sounds will be much more apparent. In fact, sometimes recording engineers will have to use specialized pieces of gear or software called "de-essers" to control them. Unprocessed, they can assume gigantic proportions and cause unpleasant distortion. S-s-s-s-so why don't engineers turn down those frequencies before they get to tape?

Yeah, why don't they?

One reason is that they provide an exciting immediacy, or intimacy, to the vocal. Intimacy? Think about placing your ear right up in front of a person's mouth as they talk. (If that's not an intimate activity, then you must be an insensitive brute!) The intimacy that results from closely recorded vocals can help them sound "out in front of the speakers." It can help compensate for the veil that recorded music often seems to have when compared with live sound. In an effort to increase that sense of intimacy, some engineers boost the high frequencies when making a vocal recording or when mixing. Over time,

their ears become accustomed to the brighter sound they've created, and in an effort to maintain that intimacy, they turn the highs up even more.

As you can imagine, the result of all this high frequency polishing is often a recording plagued with unnatural, distorted "s's," "f's," and other highs. When trying to salvage a recording like this, I may find myself lecturing to the innocent victim of a careless engineer. Obviously, it's best to record without causing those problems in the first place.

To get it right,...

To get a nice, intimate vocal sound without using EQ to brighten the highs, record with a top-quality condenser mic (not a dynamic mic),

a pop filter rather than a wind sock, and be sure to go directly to tape or disk without running the sound through any unneeded preamps, amps, busses, or equalizers. Using a general-purpose dynamic mic for recording vocals in the studio, and then trying to achieve that missing intimacy by boosting the highs, usually results in an artificial, brittle sound. If the mixing engineer or mastering engineer has to correct the consequent problems, the tracks can never sound as good as if they hadn't been processed in the first place.

Next month

Next month I'll discuss specialized microphone preamps. My feelings about these important pieces of gear are fairly unpopular

with music store sales people and mic preamp manufacturers' sales reps, but then I don't derive my income from selling them! And in future columns, I'll give you some hints about recording and mixing background and harmony vocals, with some handy bluegrass-specific tips and tricks. Happy trails!

Joe Weed records acoustic music at his Highland Studio in Los Gatos, California. He has released five albums of his 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@highlandpublishing.com.

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

by Howard Polley

Hello April readers. Thanks for turning your attention toward HK. I hope some of you have discovered the Harmonica and are having fun with this simple, traditional instrument; maybe entertaining a few friends or just enjoying the harp yourself. Now—what's up for this month?

Musical Role Models

How about role models and good examples in the harmonica arena? Of course as musicians we look to those whose accomplishments we admire and try to some extent to emulate. What can we learn from them? What do they offer us? Here are just a few top names in the harmonica field.

One name is continuously mentioned — Nashville recording and session artist Charlie McCoy. Over 20 albums since the 60's, completing upwards of 400 recording sessions a year, recipient of a Grammy and other awards are just some of his accomplishments. Although best known as a country artist, Charlie McCoy plays all styles. He has also done two excellent instructional videos. Get one of these if you want to improve your harp playing. One thing I've learned from his videos, instruction books, and interviews is his genuine "down home" demeanor which to me goes a long way. Check out Charlie McCoy if you get a chance.

Another musician, recording star, film music composer, and harmonica inventor is Lee Oskar. His name and accomplishments belong



up there with Mathias Hohner in my opinion. Lee Oskar was the first one to come up with the design and production of harmonicas in Natural and Harmonic Minor keys. Other companies then followed suit. Lee Oskar also designed a harmonica that replaces one of the missing notes found in the lower octave of the 10-hole diatonic harp. This change made it easier to play in the "cross harp" style. Lee Oskar harmonicas are great, free-blowing and sturdy harps. I've been using several of them for the past 5 years with no instrument failure on any of them.

Another name that will knock your sox off is champion bluegrass player Mike Stevens. He has performed on the Opry stage with such Bluegrass icons as Bill Monroe and Jim and Jesse and the Virginia Boys. You've got to hear him to believe

his abilities. He plays fiddle tunes... on the harmonica! He has several recordings, comes from Canada, and has an instruction book and tape that helps a little to put your sox back on.

Two other outstanding players are Terry McMillan and Buddy Greene. Both of these players are heard on several of the Bill Gaither Gospel tapes and videos. Both play with exceptional feeling and finesse.

Well, these are just a few of the excellent harmonica players around today. I believe their abilities and inspiration can benefit us all. In the final analysis though, we can say "Yes, that person is a great player." However, we must make our own musical mark, however small, as a musician.

Thanks for you time. Hope to meet with you again next month.

Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek to tour California April 6-11

Californians will have a rare opportunity to hear Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek of Brea, Kentucky in concert this month. The band will be appearing in several Northern California cities on their tour.

Dale Ann Bradley's solo recording, "East Kentucky Morning", brought her critical and fan acclaim when it was released on the Pinecastle Record label in 1997. The project received wide media attention and air play, reached the top 10 on both the Bluegrass and Americana charts, and was embraced by mainstream country radio as well.

Music Row called Dale Ann "a gently mountain songbird with a shimmering delivery; marvelous purity of tone, soprano trills, and lonesome bent notes." Dale Ann learned her powerful singing style in the Primitive Baptist church where her father was a minister, and began performing with bands by the time she was 14. In 1989 she became a member on the Renfro Valley Barn Dance, and was a regular on the famed Sunday Morning Gatherin' radio show for eight years. She recorded two solo albums for the Renfro Valley label, and soon became a highly sought after studio vocalist and guest artist on recordings. In 1992, Dale Ann joined the New Coon Creek Girls as guitarist and lead singer.

Formed in 1979 the New Coon Creek Girls was one of only a handful of all-female groups in the history of bluegrass/acoustic music. As long time members of the Renfro Valley Barn Dance they helped pave the way for many of the women stars of today. Founding member Vicki Simmons led the group for eighteen years, playing bass, singing harmony vocals and penning many of the group's superb original songs. Following the tremendous success of Dale Ann's "East Kentucky Morning" release, Vicki and Dale Ann decided to shift the focus of the group. Vicki remains as harmony singer and bass player for the group. Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek, debuted in the fall of 1997.

Banjo player John Golden joined Coon Creek in 1998 following stints with Larry Sparks, James Monroe and Charlie Sizemore Band. John is passionate about Bluegrass Music and his rich baritone voice blends naturally with Dale Ann's. Multi-instrumentalist Carl Caldwell adds fullness to the instrumental mix on mandolin, guitar, fiddle and dobro. He has performed with many groups including New Vintage, Appalachian Trail and Twisted Lester.

The band's California concert tour includes the following dates and locations:

• April 6 — House Concert (and Big



Dale Ann Bradley

Party) at Nina Kelly's in Pacific Grove. For ticket information, contact Nina Kelly Pacific Grove Productions at 831-372-5641.

• April 8 — Private performance for the Director of the San Francisco Ballet at the San Francisco Opera

House in San Francisco.

• April 9 — In concert at the 5th String Music Store at 930 Alhambra Blvd. in Sacramento at 8:00 p.m. The charge is \$10 per person and ALL proceeds go to the band. Seating is limited. Tickets are available

through either the 5th String Music Store 916-442-8282, or from Bob Thomas, at 916-989-0993.

For information about other Coon Creek performances, call 606-986-1194.

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) 431-8307.
- **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.

- **BanjerDan**, for information or bookings, call 619-702-6041; e-mail: banjerdan@mazart.com; or visit our website at: <www.mazart.com/banjerdan.html>
- **Tina Louise Barr**, master performer of the Autoharp. For information or bookings, call (209) 522-6548 after 6:00 p.m. (PST). May 1 — 3rd Annual Harps In High Gear! Concert featuring Douglas "Harmonica" Johnson and Tina Louise Barr (Master Performer of the Autoharp), at the Unity Church, 2467 Veneman Avenue, Modesto, California. Tickets are \$5 in advance; \$6 will call; or \$8 at the door. Mail order tickets from Harps in High Gear!, 1801 H Street, Suite B-5 #225, Modesto, CA 95354. For further information, call 209-480-4477.
- **Batteries Not Included** — a Bluegrass band based in the bay area, playing contemporary and traditional bluegrass. For bookings, contact Toni Murphy (408) 738-1123. Or visit their web site at <www.bnibluegrass.com> Batteries Not Included will be playing at Cuppa Joe, 194 Castro

Street in Mountain View on Saturday 10, and Saturday May 8 from 8:30 to 11:30pm. For information, call: 650-967-2294.

- **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. May 7, 8 & 9 — 1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA (40 miles NE of Paso Robles).
- **Charlie Blacklock** with "Charlie's Band", 1821 St. Charles St., Alameda, CA 94501. Phone (510) 523-4649.
- **Bluegrass Etc.**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue, South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **The Bluegrass Redliners**, for information or bookings, contact Dolly Mae Bradshaw, 425 Park Ave., Yorba Linda CA 92866. May 7, 8 & 9 — 1st Annual Mother's

Day Weekend Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA

- **Big Valley Band** contemporary and traditional Bluegrass. For information or bookings, call Randy at (916) 687-8556.
- **Blue Northern Bluegrass Band** - Redding, CA (530) 223-3352 or online... <http://www.shasta.com.bluenorthern>
- **The Birch Lake Ramblers**, Bluegrass and eclectic acoustic music. Members play guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo, fiddle and Dobro. Contract Penny Godlis 408-353-1762 or Eric Burman 408-479-9511 for information or bookings or to be put on their mailing list. Email: bdsjmill@aol.com.
- **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.

- April 24 — First Presbyterian Church Concert, 2020 5th St., Livermore, 7:30 p.m., (925) 447-2078; May 14-16 — 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA;
- **Cache Valley Drifters**, c/o Wally Barnick, 4495 Sycamore Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422, (805) 466-2850.
- **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 I St., Arcata, CA 95521 (707) 822-6264. Home page: www.humboldt.edu/~manetas/m/compost. May 7, 8 & 9 — 1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA (40 miles NE of Paso Robles).

Bands and Upcoming Gigs

- **Country Ham**, and Carland Judie Pagter. For booking or information, call (925) 938-4221 or (804) 985-3551. June 17-20 — 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA; July 16 & 17 — 16th Annual Peaceful Valley Bluegrass Festival in Downsville, NY;
- **The County Line Bluegrass Band**, consists of Paul Bernstein, Doug Holloway, Tony Phillips, Sue Smith, and Bob Waller. County Line plays monthly at the San Gregorio Store, and has recently opened a great new venue in the East Bay at the Kensington Circus Pub. For information or bookings, e-mail: banjar@jps.net or website: <http://www.jps.net/tophill>
- **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 Jeff Kazor at (415) 587-5687. Appearing every 3rd Sunday from 7-11 p.m. at the Radio Valencia Cafe at Valencia and 23rd Street in San Francisco. June 17-20 — 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;
- **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.
- **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>.
- **Peter Feldmann & The Very Lonesome Boys**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **Peter Feldmann-Richard Greene-Tom Sauber**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail:

- dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **Foothillbillies** - old time string band music and other rural favorites. For information and bookings, call (209) 245-4534 or (209) 296-2601.
- **(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)-484-1176.
- **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)

(Continued on Page 30)



BLUEGRASS AND ALMOND BLOSSOMS -- As part of the 37th Annual Ripon (CA) Almond Blossom Festival, the Chamber of Commerce presented Bluegrass concert on Friday, February 26, 1999. Pictured are (top) Paul Shelasky; (top right) Lost Highway members Paul Shelasky, Jeff Harvey, Ken Orrisk, Marshall Andrews and Dick Brown; (right) Grace Avenue Band members Jim Beeler, Barbara West, Eric West and Bob Thomas.

Photos by Howard Gold

Bands and Upcoming Gigs

(Continued from Page 29)

- **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>
- **The Gold Rush Balladeers** — Music of the Gold Rush Days! For bookings: call Julie Johnson 209-533-2842 or e-mail us at: <juliejohnsongold@hotmail.com>. April 17 — California Bound History Through Music, a Susquicentennial Celebration at the Sutter Creek Theatre, Main Street in Sutter Creek, CA. 2:00 p.m. matinee and 8:00 p.m. performance. For information or tickets, call 209-223-5145.
- **Good Company**, Country, Bluegrass, Folk, Gospel, Old Time to Popular Hits. Contact Jan (408) 223-2628 or Bette (510) 376-6241.
- **Grace Avenue Band**, Gospel and Bluegrass Music. For booking information, contact Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993 or e-mail: <Graceavenue@yahoo.com>
- **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\(whew!\)](http://www.research.digital.com/wrl/projects/misc/Grass_Menager(whew!))
- **Richard Greene and the Grass is Greener**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <<http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>>.
- **Harmony Grits**, for information call Mike at (408) 685-0969 or Jim (408) 464-1104, or write P.O. Box 1598, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.
- **Haywired**, upbeat, acoustic folk-a-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, CA 94610, phone (510) 533-9370. May 6 — Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley, CA;
- **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.net or visit their website at <<http://home.pacbell.net/highhill/>> April 23-25 — 39th Golden West Bluegrass Festival, Silver Lakes Ranch, Norco, CA; April 30 — 7:30-10:30 pm at Lamppost Pizza, 7071 Warner, Huntington Beach, CA (714) 841-5552; May 16 — Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest, Paramount Ranch, Agoura, CA; May 22 — 7:00-9:00 pm at Claremont Spring Folk Festival Performer's Variety Night Concert, Taylor Hall, Scripps & Indian Hill Blvd., Claremont, CA; June 6 — 6:00-8:00 pm at Smokin Johnnie's BBQ, 11720 Ventura Boulevard (at Colfax), Studio City, CA (818) 760-1623; June 17 — 6:00 pm "Warm-up" Show for Ricky Skaggs, East County Performing Arts Center, El Cajon, CA (619) 440-2277; June 20 — 11:00-12:00 pm High Hills participates in "Women in Bluegrass" Workshop at the Huck Finn County Bluegrass Jubilee, Mojave Narrows Regional Park, near Victorville, CA (909) 780-8810; June 25 — 7:30-10:30 pm at Lamppost Pizza, 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/> April 23-25 — 39th Golden West Bluegrass Festival, Silver Lakes Ranch, Norco, CA; May 7, 8 & 9 — 1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA
- **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, write to P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA, 94620; call 510-530-0839; or e-mail: <bgsignal@worldnet.att.net>. April 17 — Boston Bluegrass Union, Boston, MA /617-782-2251; April 18 — Del Rossi's, Dublin, NH /603-563-7195; May 7 — Fountain Green, UT /435-445-3491; May 8 — Fine Arts Auditorium, Salt Lake City, UT /801-468-2312; May 9 (2 pm) — Freight & Salvage, Berkeley, CA /510-548-1761 (Mother's Day Family Show); May 21 — Whidbey Island (WA) Center For the Arts /360-221-8262; May 22 — Traditions Fair, Olympia, WA /360-705-2819; May 23-24 — Granville Island Bluegrass Festival, Vancouver, BC /604-251-5642; June 17-20 — California Bluegrass Assn. Festival, Grass Valley, CA /707-762-8735; July 24 — Podunk Bluegrass Festival, E. Hartford, CT /860-742-7430; July 31 - Aug. 6 — Puget Sound Guitar Workshop, Bremerton, WA /206-781-5026; Sept. 2-6 — Strawberry Music Festival, Camp Mather, CA /209-533-0191 (Good Ol' Persons reunion); Sept. 9 — Freight & Salvage, Berkeley, CA /510-548-1761 (\$9.99 admission on 9-9-99)
- **Laurel Canyon Ramblers**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <<http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>> April 29 — Sweetwater, Mill Valley, CA; April 30 — Freight & Salvage, Berkeley, CA; May 1 — The Palms, Davis, CA; May 29 — McCabe's, Santa Monica
- **Laurie Lewis**, for booking information, contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544. April 8 — Salmon Arts Council, Salmon, ID; April 9 — Country Series, Idaho Falls, ID; April 10 — College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID; May 8 — In concert at the Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St., Fresno, CA. Sponsored by the Fresno Folklore Society. For information or tickets, call 209-456-0453; May 14-16 — 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA;
- **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.
- **The Log Cabin Serenaders**, American Roots music, duo or group. For information, contact Dave Rainwater, P.O. Box 142, Mountain Ranch, CA 95246, phone 209-754-5747.
- **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. May 7, 8 & 9 — 1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA (40 miles NE of Paso Robles). May 14-16 — 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA; June 18-20 — Huck Finn's County & Bluegrass Jamoree, Mojave Narrows Regional Park, Victorville, CA;
- **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 Giacomuzzi 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.
- **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.
- **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: <shankmantwin@juno.com>
- **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: <lisaonbass@aol.com>. Sam's BBQ, 1461 Campbell Avenue, Campbell, CA (408) 374-9676 every Thursday evening 6-9 p.m. reservations recommended. April 10 - Woodhaven West Concert Series at Los Gatos Methodist Church, 19 High School Ct., Los Gatos, CA, 7:30 p.m. For information, call 408-354-4730; May 2 — Saratoga Rotary Art Show at West Valley College, Fruitvale Avenue in Saratoga, CA; May 14-16 — 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA; May 22 — with the Barbary Coast Cloggers at the Sammy Davis Jr. Plaza in Las Vegas, NV. For information, call 702-229-6704 or 702-474-4000; May 30 — Mushroom Martigras in Morgan Hill, CA; August 15 - Twilight Concert Series, Fremont Park in Menlo Park, 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, CA 95667 or call (916) 644-2149 or (916) 333-4083.
- **Slim Pickins**, Traditional and contemporary Bluegrass. Contact

Bands and Upcoming Gigs

(From previous page)

Bob and Joanne Martin, (619) 273-3048.

- **Songs of the Appalachians**, Historical school shows for grades K-8 (American folk songs and instruments). For information contact, Dave Rainwater at 209-754-5747.

- **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>>. April 10 - Community Center, Escalon, CA 7:30pm 209-838-2425 W/The Saddle Pals; April 23, 24 - End of Trail Jubilee, Norco, CA 714-998-1899; April 25 - Autry Museum of Western Heritage, Los Angeles, CA 12:30-3pm 213-667-2000; May 1 - Country Gathering, Community Auditorium, Paradise, CA 530-877-9356; May 13-16 - Calaveras County Fair, Angels Camp, CA 209-736-2561; May 20-22 - Glenn County Fair, Orland, CA 530-865-1168; June 5 - Cowboy Poetry & Music, Carmel, CA; June 12, 13 - Carson Rendezvous, Mills Park, Carson City, NV; June 19 - Cowboy Poetry & Music, Woodside, CA;

- **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>. July 22-25 - Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival, Stevenson Washington, Gospel music program and Dobro workshop.

- **Alice Stuart and Prune Rooney**, for bookings or information, e-mail: <sturoo@netshel.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



A WINTER GOLD CONCERT -- on February 13th at the Fallon House Theatre in Columbia State Park, California entertained the audience with great Acoustic music. Featured artists pictured are: (clockwise from top left) Multi-award winning Dobro player, Rob Ickes; eclectic multi-instrumentalist Joe Craven; and songwriter/guitar player Richard Sholer.

Photos by Howard Gold

(510) 634-1155.

- **Tall Timber Boys**, traditional bluegrass. For information or bookings, call (408) 446-9033 or write 1009 Acacia Lane, Davis, CA 95616 or e-mail at TallTimberBoys@Yahoo.com. www.talltimberboys.com. April 9 - 9-10pm: Barnes & Noble, 3600 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose, CA, (408) 984-3495; May 29 - 8:30-10:30pm: Blue Rock Shoot, 14523 Big Basin Way, Saratoga,

CA. 408-867-3437; July 10, 1999: SCBS Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival, Bolado Park, Hollister, CA.

- **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 featur-

ing 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. April 23-25 - 39th Golden West Bluegrass Festival, Silver Lakes Ranch, Norco, CA; May 14-16 - 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA; June 17-20 - 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;

- **Yesterday's Country Roads**, "Country, Bluegrass Gospel", for (Continued on Page 32)

Bands and Upcoming Gigs

(Continued from Page 31)

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. June 17 - 20 - 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;
- **Bluegrass Patriots**, for booking and information, 1807 Essex Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80526, or call (970) 482-0863. May 14-16 - 8th Annual Mariposa County Bluegrass Festival at the County Fairgrounds in Mariposa, CA; July 10 & 11 - 10th Annual Bitterroot Valley Bluegrass Festival at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton, MT;
- **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.
- **Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek**, for information and booking, contact Vicki Simmons, 312 Angel Road, Berea, KY 40403, Phone 606-986-1194; FAX 606-986-1044; e-mail: cooncreekmusic@zeus.chapell.com; web site: <www.daleann.com>. April 6 - House Concert (and Big Party) at Nina Kelly's in Pacific Grove. For ticket information, contact Nina Kelly Pacific Grove Productions at 831-372-5641; April 8 - Private performance for the Director of the San Francisco Ballet at the San Francisco Opera House in San Francisco; April 9 - In concert at the 5th String Music Store at 930 Alhambra Blvd. in Sacramento at 8:00 p.m. The charge is \$10 per person and ALL proceeds go to the band. Seating is limited. Tickets are available through either the 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento, 916-442-8282, or from Bob Thomas, at 916-989-0993.
- **Continental Divide**, for booking or information, contact David Parmley at (615) 824-4399. April 16 - CBA sponsored Concert at the , Palo Alto, CA, for tickets or information, call Matt Dudman at 530-318-4455 or e-mail: South

BayCBA@Yahoo.com; April 17 - CBA sponsored Concert at the Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks, CA. For information or tickets, contact Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.

- **Sharon Cort & New River Ranch**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; web site: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.

- **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; e-mail: <Class Act@compuserve.com>; website: <www.mindspring.com/~bumn/classact>. July 3 - All Oregon Bluegrass Festival at Rocky Top Bluegrass Farm in Salem OR; August 28 - Bluegrass on the Green at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, OR;

- **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>. May 26 - Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley;

- **The Fox Family** for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenue South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>. April 15 - Media Room, Pacific Grove; April 16 - CBA sponsored Concert at the , Palo Alto, CA, for tickets or information, call Matt Dudman at 530-318-4455 or e-mail: South BayCBA@Yahoo.com; April 17 - CBA sponsored Concert at the Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks, CA. For information or tickets, contact Al Shusterman at (916) 961-9511.

- **Freight Hoppers**, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. June 18 - Huck Finn's County & Bluegrass Jamoree, Mojave Narrows Regional Park, Victorville, CA; June 19 - Live Oak Music Festi-

val, Live Oak Campground, CA;

- **Front Range**, for bookings and information contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544. July 10 & 11 - 10th Annual Bitterroot Valley Bluegrass Festival at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton, MT;
- **The Grasshoppers** - For information and bookings, contact Glen Garrett, 844 Bonnie Brae, Nampa, Idaho 83651 or call (208) 465-0399. Huck Finn's County & Bluegrass Jamboree, Mojave Nar-

rows Regional Park, Victorville, CA; July 22-25 - 15th Annual Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival at the Skamania County Fairgrounds in Stevenson, WA;

- **High Plains Tradition**, For booking and information, contact Chuck Tinsley, PO Box 522, Denver, CO 80201; call (303) 601-4113; e-mail: HighPlainsTradition@yahoo.com; or visit their web site: <http://www.banjo.com/Profiles/HPT.html>. April 9 - Swallow Hill Music Hall, Denver, CO,

Tickets/Info: Front Desk (303) 777-1003; April 30 & May 1-2 - Park City Bluegrass Festival, Park City, KS; Tickets/Info: Jim Bullard (316) 691-8178; June 5-6 - 10th Annual Bluegrass on the River Festival, Pueblo, CO, Tickets/Info: Damian Rotolo (719) 545-9114; June 17 - Logan Summerfest, Logan, UT, Tickets/Info: Elanor Wellings (801) 573-8651;

- **Ilrd Tyme Out**, for information and bookings, contact the Deaton Agency at 770-271-9056. June 17



VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT -- KVMR 89.5 FM public radio in Nevada City and the California Bluegrass Association presented a Valentine's Day Concert in Grass Valley, California. Pictured are local favorite band, Mountain Laurel (top l-r): Paul Siese, Rick Grant, Doug Bianchi, Pete Siegfried, Ken Nilsson. At right is the legendary banjo virtuoso, Dr. Ralph Stanley still going strong!

Photos by Howard Gold



"Plugged In"

by Banjobill@Abilnet.com

Spring truly is in the air and you can feel it at its best at the festivals happening all about. Lots of good reading matter in the column this month and without any further ado, here we go.

Search Engines - How They Work For You

As promised last month, I wanted to devote a little time to fill you in on this way to get around on the web, to find interests that directly appeal to you. It could be e-mail discussion groups you are looking for or web sites.

Some of the search engines generally available include Yahoo, Infoseek, Netscape, Lycos, and Excite, plus American on Line (AOL) has one of their own, if you are a subscriber, of course. Your web browser, in most cases, will be in the software your computer has on it already to get you on the web.

When you get to the browser, you will need to type in the topic you want. Be quite concise as to what you are searching for, because you don't want to bring up thousands of unneeded entries. Honing

the topic down will get you to choice land so much faster.

Some engines require that you surround your multiple-word request with quotations or link the words with plus signs. If you are interested in bluegrass, old timey, folk or Celtic, for example, type in "bluegrass music" or "folk music" instead of just "music." The quotes around the phrase make the search most effective, as the search engine should sort for sites that contain all the words. A lot of the sites you visit on your search will link you to other sites. And you will find out, too, that some search engines work better than others for certain topics.

Where does all the information come from for the search engines, you might ask. Some get their information submitted by various web page owners and some comes in from employees who do nothing but search the web and catalog the results.

Other search engines get their information through electronic web crawlers which will scan the entire web automatically and pick out the key words in every web page. Some

use a combination or variation of both methods.

With millions and millions of web pages on-line, and more being added by the minute, the key to effective searching is to narrow down your focus as much as possible, then follow links from the pages your search engine locates. And do try the same search on more than one engine—the results will be different.

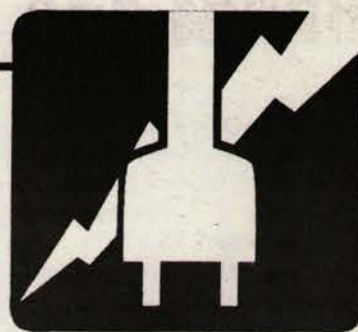
E-mail Address Sites

Thank you everyone for the incoming e-mail address sites that I am getting to put into this column for everyone. Something I appreciate a whole lot, especially when going to festivals, is a little business card printed up with the name and address and phone number of someone and what type of music they like and specialize in and their e-mail address. You don't have to be a plumber or salesman anymore to have a business card. It's so funny to hear, after talking to some guys and gals after a jam, requests for your e-mail address. Man, talk about a 90's thing!

Not sure if you've had the opportunity to see World Beat on CNN. Wonderful program, featuring music of all kinds from around the world. Recently they did a few shows in a row on Celtic music. If you'd like to find more out about this program, schedules, etc., they can be reached at WorldBeat@CNN.Com.

Nice catalog of Acoustic Artists is free at aas.ag@stringletter.com. Another nice catalog of Celtic and Folk recordings from Tayberry Music is over at mtice@etlink.net. Common Ground does a slew of nice workshops on music and you can get info, catalog and registration info at eground@qis.net.

A catalog that I enjoyed ever so much is from Mandolin Bros, Ltd. at mandolin@mandoweb.com. Never bought an instrument through the mail, but it seems to work for many of people, especially if you live miles from a music shop of any kind. Here's a mail-order company that sells new and used instruments: House of Musical Traditions at hmtad@hmtad.com.



Some people have been asking for record company e-mail addresses so here's a list, some of which may have appeared before. I'll just run through the name and the address and you can go from there. Woodpecker Records at info@woodpecker.com, Urgent Records at dliippmann@e-mail.unc.edu, Pinecastle Records at info@pinecastle.com, Music For Little People at mlp@igc.apc.org, Hay Holler Records at hayholr@usit.net, Arhoolie Records at mail@arhoolie.com, County Records/County Sales at rebel@rev.net.

If you'd like a free catalog of Augusta Heritage Center Music Workshops for 1999 you can write to augusta@augustaheritage.com.

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Bands and Upcoming Gigs

- 20 — 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;

• **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, CA 95628.

• **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. May 27 — Strawberry Spring Music Festival, Camp Mather near Yosemite, CA;

• **Lost and Found,** for information and bookings, contact Allen Mills, P.O. Box 90, Woolwine, VA 24185, (540) 930-2622.

• **Kate MacKenzie,** for information and bookings contact Red House Records (800) 695-4687. May 12 - May 29 — European Tour (contact Red House Records for dates and locations);

• **Del McCoury Band,** for information and bookings contact Bobby Cudd at Monterey Artists, at 615-321-4444. July 22-25 — 15th Annual Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival at the Skamania County Fairgrounds in Stevenson, WA;

• **Lynn Morris Band,** for information and bookings contact Class Act Entertainment: phone 615-262-6886; FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: ClassAct@compuserve.com; website: www.mindspring.com/budm/classact May 14 — Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley, CA; May 15 & 16 — Mariposa Goldrush Bluegrass Festival, Mariposa, CA; May 17 — Henslings's Tavern, Ben Lomond, CA; May 20 — Neighborhood Church, Pasadena, CA; May 22 — San Diego Heritage Folk Festival, La Jolla Children's School, San Diego, CA;

• **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.

• **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.swiftsite.com/nostringsattached> >

• **Northern Lights,** for information and booking contact Linda Bolton, 437 Live Oak Loop NE, Albuquerque, MN 87122-1406, phone/FAX 505-856-7100, email <nlightsmgt@aol.com>. April

23 — Quincy, MA, The Folk Club, Bethany Church, 18 Spear St.; May 15 — Amesbury, MA, Imagine Studios at St. James Episcopal Church, 120 Main St., June 11 & 12 — Essex Jct., VT, Vermont Bluegrass Family Festival, Fairgrounds, 802-827-6640;

• **Northern Pacific,** for information and booking contact Trisha Tubbs, P.O. Box 601, Woodinville, WA 98072-0601; phone 425-481-7293; or e-mail: trishtubbs@aol.com. June 17-20 — 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;

• **Peter Rowan,** for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. May 22 — The Fandango at the Rodeo Grounds in Clovis, CA; June 12 — Kuumbwa Jazz Center, Santa Cruz, CA; June 27 — Kate Wolf Memorial Festival, Caswell Vineyards, Sebastopol, CA;

• **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. April 24th — St. John's McMenamin's Pub, 9 pm, 8203 N. Ivanhoe, Portland, OR. "Bluegrass For Books!", A fund raiser for Doug's elementary school in St. John's. A second band is yet-to-be-announced; May 8th — The Snake and Weasel, 9 p.m., 1720 SE 12th, Portland, OR;

• **Sand Mountain Boys,** Traditional Bluegrass Music. For information and bookings contact call Wayne Crain, 7744 Rube Pace Rd., Milton, FL 32583, phone 850-983-2824; e-mail: <sandmtboy@aol.com>; or Kenny Townsel at 256-561-3373; e-mail: <kennyboy@airnet.net>. June 17-20 — CBA's 24th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA.

• **The Sitze Family,** for booking or information, write to 1663 Madison 250, Fredericktown, MO 63645; call 573-783-7054; e-mail: sitze@fredericktown.k12.mo.us.

May 7 — Bluegrass Festival, Decatur, IL; May 8 — Clouds Creek Bluegrass Festival, Comer, GA;

• **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. May 13 — Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, Mariposa, CA; May 21 — Brewery Arts Center in Carson City, NV, 7 p.m.; May 30 — Tahoe Yacht Club, Tahoe City, CA, 12-4 p.m.; July 31 — Bowers Mansion Bluegrass Festival, Carson City, NV;

• **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>

• **Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers,** for information and

bookings, contact Larry Sparks, P.O. Box 505, Greenburg, IN 47240, (812) 663-8055. June 17-20 — 24th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;

• **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 (323) 258-0969.

• **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. 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.doitnow.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 Shusterman at (916) 961-9511

Upcoming Bluegrass, Old-time and Gospel Music Events

APRIL

- April 6 — Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek House Concert (and Big Party) at Nina Kelly's in Pacific Grove. For ticket information, contact Nina Kelly Pacific Grove Productions at 831-372-5641.
- April 7 — Music Campout at Stony Gorge Reservoir, 20 miles west of Willows, California. Dry camping. The area has picnic tables, a barbecue pit, cement dance floor, campfire pit and a big lake for fishing. Donations will be accepted. For information, contact Arlene Berg at 916-786-8502.
- April 9 — Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek in concert, 8:00 p.m. at the Fifth String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento. The charge is \$10 per person and ALL proceeds go to the band. Seating is limited. Tickets are available through either the 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento, 916-442-8282, or from Bob Thomas, at 916-989-0993.
- April 9 - 11 — 5th Annual Durango Bluegrass Meltdown, downtown Durango, CO. Featuring: Lynn Morris Band, James King Band, Wild & Blue, Within Tradition, and many others. For information or tickets, call 970-259-1894.
- April 13 — The Bladerunners perform, plus an open mike and jamming, 7:30-10 pm, in the Crest Room of the Carlton Oaks Country Club, 9200 Inwood Dr., Santee, CA. Call Elizabeth at 619-286-1836.
- April 16 — Continental Divide and the Fox Family in Concert, 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:45 p.m.) at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston, Palo Alto, CA. Sponsored by the South Bay CBA. Sponsored by the South Bay CBA. Advance tickets are \$16 for CBA members; \$18 non-members; and 1/2 price for children 16 and under. All tickets are \$18 at the door. For tickets or information, contact South Bay CBA, 1009 Acacia Lane, Davis, CA

95616, phone 530-318-4455; e-mail: SouthBayCBA@Yahoo.com; or visit their web site at: <<http://www.geocities.com/Nashville/5443/SouthBayCBA.html>>

- April 16 — Eddie and Martha Adcock in concert, 7 PM, at the Chico Women's Club, 3rd Street & Pine, Chico, CA. Three-time Grammy nominees, Eddie and Martha Adcock, perform acoustic country and bluegrass. Eddie is one of the founding members of the classic Country Gentlemen. Together Eddie and Martha have taken their high energy performances from clubs to the Kennedy Center. Cashbox Magazine labels them "stellar musicians and vocalists". Opening the concert is Banjo Jim, a dynamic vocalist and guitarist, who performs traditional, contemporary and original songs from the heart. For more information call 530-895-8560. (Cosponsored by Grant Johnston and the Butte Folk Music Society.)
- April 16 & 17 — Texas State Bluegrass Festival April Early Bird Kick-Off at Trade Day Park in Canton, Texas. Featuring: Twice As Nice, Bill Grant and Delia Bell, Red River Valley, Timberline, Mack Smith Family, Shady Grove Ramblers, Welch Mountain and Blue River Sound. For information or tickets, contact Pat Conrad, 1004 Bonham St., Paris TX 75660; phone 903-785-5394; FAX 903-739-2000; or e-mail: <patc@neto.com>.
- April 16 - 18 — Where the Rivers Meet Bluegrass Jamboree at Quesnel, BC, Canada. For information, contact Vern Schell, Quesnel & Dist. Srs. Soc, 461 Carson Ave., Quesnel, BC, Canada V2J 2B6 or phone 250-992-3991.

- April 17 — Continental Divide and the Fox Family in Concert at the Sunrise Community Church, 8321 Greenback Lane in Fair Oaks, CA. Doors open at 6 p.m., concert at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. Advance tickets are \$15 for CBA members; \$17 for non-members; 1/2 price for children 16 and under. All tickets are \$17 at the door. For information or tickets, write to Al Shusterman, 5717 Reinhold St., Fair Oaks, CA 95628 or call 916-961-9511.
- April 17 — Eddie and Martha Adcock in Concert, 8 p.m., at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston, Palo Alto, CA. Opening is the David Thom Band. Sponsored by Redwood Bluegrass Associates and Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Tickets are \$15 for SCBS members and \$16 general in advance; \$20 at the door/phone. For information or tickets, see the ad in this issue or call 650-691-2131.
- April 17 — California Bound History Through Music, a Susquicentennial Celebration at the Sutter Creek Theatre, Main Street in Sutter Creek, CA. 2:00 p.m. matinee and 8:00 p.m. performance. Featuring: Black Irish Band, Gold Rush Balladeers, and Los Compadres. Tickets available from the Amador County Arts Council, 204 Court St., Jackson, CA 95642 or call 209-223-5145.
- April 17 — Dance Concert featuring Laura Love, Lost Caravan with guest Joe Craven and the Earth Angels at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds in Sonoma, CA. Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door; children 8-12 - \$4; under 8 are free. For information or for credit card orders, call 209-533-3473 or e-mail: <firemtn@connet.com>.

- April 23-25 — CBA Spring Campout at the County Fairgrounds in Colusa, CA. Plenty of RV hookups, lawn area for tent camping, showers and permanent bathrooms. Great jam weekend! For information, call Al Shusterman at 916-961-9511.
- April 23-25 — 39th Golden West Bluegrass Festival at Silver Lakes Ranch in Norco, CA. Featuring: Jim & Jesse and the Virginia Boys, Eddie and Martha Adcock, Damascus Road, the Witcher Brothers, Bladerunners, Hwy 52, High Hills, Lillies of the West, High Cotton, Hickory Ridge and Clog Dancers. Jam Session workshop on Saturday and open Bluegrass Banjo Contest on Sunday. For tickets or information, contact Richard Tyner, 475 College Blvd. Suite 6-121, Oceanside, CA 92057; phone 760-758-7375; e-mail: <Rtyner5439@aol.com>; or visit their web page at: <members.aol.com/STyner6969/index.html>.

- 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.
- April 29 - May 1 — 9th Annual Boxcar Pinion Memorial Bluegrass Festival at Camp Columbus in Chattanooga, TN. Featuring: Norman Blake, Eddie and Martha Adcock, the Lonesome River Band, J.D. Crowe & the New South, New Tradition, Reno Brothers, Dismembered Tennesseans, Marion County Grass, Ramblin Grass and Broad River. For information or tickets, contact Cindy Pinion at 706-820-2228.
- April 29 - May 2 — Merlefest '99,

Plugged In.....

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For more information about the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View, Arkansas, you can write to: ofc@mvitel.net. Need some Red Label Strings? Then send an inquiry to supersensitive@supersensitive.com. I sent for this free CD of folk music from the Great Lakes from Lee Murdock and the music is well-structured and meaningful. For a sampler CD, just write to jmurdock@mcs.com.

This Month's List

Before I mention another choice, I want to take a moment to tell you about <http://www.onelist.com>. It is a location on the web that is the home to over 85,000 different e-mail discussion lists. You can visit and log on to any of them, for free. If you can't find exactly the list you want, do as I have done and start your own. And with some planning and simple instructions at Onelist, you can shortly be a listowner. There is no charge to the listowner, because Onelist does advertise on the subject line of your messages you send back and forth to the list. To me, it's a more than fair exchange.

Under the folk heading for example, I found 27 different lists, but none actually offering much in the way of coverage of folk festivals. So I started my own, which you can sign on when you go directly to <http://www.onelist.com/subscribe/FolkFest>.

FolkFest is a new, growing list. It's like attending a festival, right in the comfort of your home or office. Music covered includes folk, Cajun, blues, old time, bluegrass as well as

storytelling and cowboy and mining music, a little of this and a little of that. As with any of the lists that you subscribe to, what you get out of it will of, course, all depend on what you put into it from your end in terms of ideas and responses to discussion.

When I get the chance, I personally send information to the list, dealing with festivals and events going on around the world. If I get some information regarding artists and different approaches to the music we're talking about, it gets sent to everyone. If people have been to a show or a festival, they're encouraged to talk about it and let everyone know what they missed or didn't.

As with any list, it takes time to grow and mature and blossom within and FolkFest is getting a good crop of subscribers from all walks of life from around the entire world. Looking forward to your visit.

Before departing, I encourage you to look around while you are at Onelist and go through the many lists on many different topics. I recently signed onto a PeteSeeger list. Just under music, some of the subheadings you'll find include acoustic guitar, blues, Christian, Country, Gospel, World, Bluegrass, and lyrics (an incredible 42 different lists).

Next month, I'll look at another e-mail list in music as well as discuss some other pointers for sending and getting messages from the list. 'Till then, have a nice month and get out and enjoy all the wonderful festivals and special musical programs.

Salamander Crossing to make April California Tour

For a night of entertainment that will remind you what music is all about, come hear Salamander Crossing live in concert. Who is Salamander Crossing? Combine the zip of Bluegrass, the sour of Appalachia, and the honest contemporary folk, and you've got the picture of a young band carving out a new niche in American music.

The New England Folk Almanac calls it "Bluegrass for the new millennium". "A bracing fusion," says the College Media Journal. "A splendid, eclectic band," hails the Boston Herald.

Whatever words you choose to describe what they do, you'll find that with fiddle, banjo, guitar, bass, stunning close harmonies, and skilled song writing, Salamander Crossing produces a remarkably unique sound.

To experience the exciting new sounds of Salamander Crossing,

come see them during their April California tour. Dates and locations are:

- April 14 — The Coalesce Bookstore, Morro Bay, CA; phone 805-544-1885. 7:00 p.m. show; Tickets \$10.
- April 15 — Soho, Santa Barbara, CA; phone 805-962-7776. 8:00 p.m. show; tickets \$10.
- April 16 — The Neighborhood Church Music Hall, 301 N. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena, CA; phone 626-791-0411. Showtime 8:00 p.m.; tickets \$16.50 adv/\$18 door.
- April 17 — San Dieguito Methodist Church, Encinitas, CA; phone 760-436-4030. Show 6:00 p.m.; tickets \$12.
- April 18 — Castoro Cellars, Templeton, CA; phone 805-544-1885. Show time 7:30 p.m.; tickets \$10.
- April 20 — The Media Room, Pa-

cific Grove, CA; phone 831-655-0535. Show time 7:00 p.m.; tickets \$15.

- April 21 — Henflings, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, CA; phone 831-335-1642; 8 p.m., tickets are \$7-\$9.
- April 22 — Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley; phone (510) 548-1761. 8:00 p.m. show; tickets \$12 advance and \$13 at the door.
- April 23 — Sebastopol Community Center, Sebastopol, CA, phone 707-829-7067. 8:00 p.m. show; tickets \$13, \$15, \$17.
- April 24 — The Arena Theatre, Point Arena, CA, phone 707-882-3711. 8:00 show; Tickets \$10/\$9 members.
- April 25 — Chico Elks Lodge (outdoor concert), Chico, CA, phone 530-345-8136. Show 2:00 p.m.

Upcoming Bluegrass, Old-time and Gospel Music Events

12th Annual Homecoming in Memory of Merle Watson, at Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Partial lineup includes: Doc Watson, Blue Highway, The Sam Bush Band, Chesapeake, Guy Clark, Jerry Douglas, Bela Fleck and the Fletones, James King Band, Lonesome River Band, Nashville Bluegrass Band, Nickel Creek, The Del McCoury Band, Lynn Morris Band, Longview, Tony Rice and many, many more. Advance tickets now on sale. For information or tickets, visit their website at: <www.merlefest.org>; call M-F 10 am - 4 pm 800-343-7857; FAX 336-838-6277; or write to Merlefest, P.O. Box 1299, Wilkesboro, NC 28697-1299.

MAY

- May 1 — **Hugh and Sheri Hoeger with Thom Bentley** in concert at the 5th String Music store, 930 Alhambra at J Street, Sacramento, CA. Thom is considered one of the best bluegrass guitar/mandolin player in northern California, and he will be featured along with Sheri and Hugh on vocals, bass, and guitar. For further information, call (916) 442-8282.
- May 1 — **3rd Annual Harps In High Gear! Concert** featuring Douglas "Harmonica" Johnson and Tina Louise Barr (Master Performer of the Autoharp), at the Unity Church, 2467 Veneman Avenue, Modesto, California. Tickets are \$5 in advance; \$6 will call; or \$8 at the door. Mail order tickets from Harps in High Gear!, 1801 H Street, Suite B-5 #225, Modesto, CA 95354. For further information, call 209-480-4477.
- May 1-2 — **Granville Island Bluegrass Festival**, Vancouver, BC, Canada. For information or tickets, contact: Pacific Bluegrass and Heritage Society, 1343 East 14th Ave., Vancouver, BC, Canada V5N 2C7 or call 604-931-7194.
- May 2 — **La Grange Fiddle and Banjo Contest**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the historic old school house on Floto Street in La Grange CA. Competition categories are: fiddle, banjo, vocal, mandolin, guitar and miscellaneous. \$40 first prize in each category; \$6 registration fee. Event is free to the public. Hosted by Cactus Bob and Prairie Flower. For information, contact Christine Stevenson at 209-853-2128.
- May 7 — **Laurie Lewis in Concert**, 8 p.m., at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston, Palo Alto, CA. Sponsored by Redwood Bluegrass Associates and Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Tickets are: \$19 for SCBS members or \$20 general in advance; \$24 at the door/phone. For information or tickets, see the ad in this issue or call 650-493-2131.
- May 7, 8 & 9 — **1st Annual Mother's Day Weekend Camp**
- **Rude Bluegrass Festival** in Parkfield, CA (40 miles NE of Paso Robles). Featuring: Lost Highway, Bladerunners, Bluegrass Redliners, Bear Ridge Bluegrass Band, Lonesome Road with Martha White, Compost Mountain Boys and more. For information or tickets, write to Pat Conway - Bluegrass, 211 Peach Street, Exeter, CA 93221-1128 or visit their web site at <www.camprude.com> or <www.Parkfield.com>.
- May 7, 8 & 9 — **Sonoma County 1999 Folk Festival** at the Sebastopol Community Center complex in Sebastopol, CA. Partial line-up includes Nobody You Know, Bryan Bowers, Rick Shub and Bob Wilson, and Word of Mouth with more bands to be announced. For information, or to be a part of the planning of the festival, call 707-838-4857.
- May 7-9 — **Santa Fe Trails Bluegrass Festival** at the Wyandotte County Fairgrounds in Kansas City, KS. Featuring: Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, The Del McCoury Band, Freight Hoppers, Stephen Bennett, Spontaneous Combustion, Bill Barwick, The Bluegrass Missourians, Etcetera String Band, The Span Mountain Boys, and more. For information, call 913-764-5399 or visit their web site at: <http://www.cantafetrails.org>.
- May 7, 8 & 9 — **Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver's Bluegrass Music Festival** at Denton Farmpark, Denton, North Carolina. Featuring: Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, BlueRidge, Tony Rice, Randall Hylton, The Osborne Brothers, The Lewis Family, Janette Williams & Clearwater, The Stevens Sisters, Illrd Tyme Out, J.D. Crowe & the New South, Peter Rowan, The Goins Brothers, Heaven's Echos, The Hatley Family, Hoyt Herbert & The Strings of Five, and Paul Williams. For camping and ticket information, call or write Denton Farmpark, 1366 Jim Elliott Rd., Denton, NC 27239; phone 336-859-2755 or 3663; or Doyle Lawson, P.O. Box 3141, Bristol, TN 37625-3141; 423-878-6160.
- May 8 — **Laurie Lewis, Tom Rozum and Todd Phillips** in concert at the Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St., Fresno, CA. Sponsored by the Fresno Folklore Society. For tickets or information, call 209-456-0453 or 224-1144.
- May 13-16 — **Gettysburg Bluegrass Camporee** at Granite Hill Campground, 3340 Fairfield Rd., Gettysburg, PA. Featuring Del McCoury Band, Lonesome River Band, Ralph Stanley, Dry Branch Fire Squad, The Lewis Family and many more. For information or tickets, write to Granite Hill Campground, 3340 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325; or phone 717-642-8749 or 800-642-

TENT.

- May 14 - 16 — **Mariposa County Gold Rush Bluegrass Festival**, Mariposa County Park, Hwy 495, Mariposa, CA. Featuring: Laurie Lewis, Lynn Morris, Witcher Brothers, Bluegrass Patriots, Lost Highway, Sidesaddle & Co., and Brushy Peak. For information or tickets, contact Mariposa County Arts Council, P.O. Box 2134, Mariposa, CA 95338; E-mail <arts@yosemite.net>; or visit their web site at <www.mariposa.yosemite.net/arts>
- May 16 — **Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest** at Paramount Ranch, Cornell Rd., Agora Hills, CA. For information, call 818-382-4819.
- May 21-23 — **Sacramento Area CBA Campout** at Yogi Bear's Beaver Creek Camp Ground at 14417 Bottle Rock Road, Cobb Mountain California. They have 107 pull through sites for RVs, and tenters have a table, water, electricity and a sink. We've reserved a large area with a gazebo in the center. Call 1-800-307 CAMP for reservations.
- May 21 - 23 — **5th Annual Burlington Weekend Bluegrass Festival** at the Des Moines County Fairgrounds in Burlington, Iowa. Featuring: Second Exit, the Ezells, the Blue & Gray Pickers, Coffee Brothers and Bluegrass Addiction. For information or tickets, call 573-853-4344.
- May 22 — **Bryan Bowers Trio** in concert at the Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St., Fresno, CA. Sponsored by the Fresno Folklore Society. For tickets or information, call 209-456-0453 or 224-1144.
- May 22 — **San Diego Folk Heritage Festival**, Children's School, La Jolla, CA. Bands, workshops, jams, dance, storytelling, food and fun. Sponsored by the San Diego Folk Heritage. For information, call 619-566-4040.
- May 22 — **Monumental Fiddle Contest** at Homestead National Monument of America in Beatrice, Nebraska. Two divisions of competition with cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. A songwriting by Greenblatt and Saey will be held at 10 a.m. For information or contest registration, write to: Superintendent, Homestead National Monument of America, Route 3, Box 47, Beatrice, NE 68310 or call 402-223-3514.
- May 27-31 — **Strawberry Spring Music Festival**, Camp Mather (near Yosemite), California. Featuring: Jerry Douglas Band featuring Maura O'Connell & Tim O'Brien, The Lonesome River Band, The John Cowan Band, Alison Brown Quartet, The Mollie O'Brien Band, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Chris Smither, The Hot Club of Cowtown, The Gibson Brothers, Riders in the Sky, Steve

Riley & The Mamou Playboys, Jones & Leva, and Stacey Earle. For information or tickets, contact Strawberry Music, P.O. Box 565, Sonoma, CA 95370; e-mail <smfest@sonnet.com>; or visit their website at <www.strawberrymusic.com>. For credit card orders, phone 209-533-0191.

- May 28 - 30 — **Western Colorado Memorial Day Weekend Bluegrass Music Festival** at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Grand Junction, CO. Featuring in concert The Stanley Tradition Album Band, Lonesome River Band, The Ernie Thacker Band, Mountain Heart, Lost Highway, Bluegrass Patriots, Pam Gadd, Junior Sisk, Steve Spurgin, The Grasshoppers and Wing & a Prayer. Festival offers indoor and outdoor stages, and a large grassy park area for jamming on the festival site, as well as instrument contests, workshops, and kids on stage. For room reservations, call GJ Adam's Mark 1-800-360-4066 or Country Inn at 1-800-990-1143. For tickets or information, contact Dick Pierle at 970-245-0836 or 1-888-OLD-BLUE; write to: Old Blue Inn, 715 S. 7th St., Grand Junction, CO 81501; e-mail <oldblue@gj.net>; or visit their website at: <www.oldblue.com>
- May 29-31 — **AcuTab 2nd Annual Banjo Seminar** at the Roanoke Airport Marriott Hotel in Roanoke, VA. Instructors include Sonny Osborne, J.D. Crowe, Bill Evans and Steve Huber. Evening concert May 30 featuring the Osborne Brothers and J.D. Crowe & the New South. More details, including curriculum and registration information, can be found on the web at: <http://www.acutab.com/seminar>. Or you can write to AcuTab Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 21061, Roanoke, VA 24018-0108 or call 540-776-6822.

JUNE

- June 2-6 — **Steve Kaufman's Mandolin Camp**, Maryville, TN. For information, call 1-800-FLATPIK.
- June 3 - 5 — **Graves Mountain Festival of Music** at Syria, Virginia. Featuring: J.D. Crowe and the New South, James King Band, Lynn Morris Band, Valerie Smith and Liberty Pike, Lonesome River Band, Ralph Stanley, Tony Rice, Del McCoury, Illrd Tyme Out, and many more. For information or tickets, call 540-923-4231 or Mark Newton at 540-899-3870.
- June 3 - 5 — **6th Annual The Best of Missouri Bluegrass** at Lathrop Antique Car and Tractor Park in Lathrop, Missouri. Featuring: Silver Cloud Tradition, Junction 22 Bluegrass, Karl Shiflett & Big Country, and many more. For information or tickets, contact Neal and Mary Backeus, Bluegrass Enterprises, 3209 S. Ten
- Mile Dr., P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102-7170; phone 573-636-0536; or visit their web site at: <www.bluegrassworld.com/festival/lathrop>.
- June 4, 5 & 6 — **Wild Iris Folk Festival** at the Mendocino County Fairgrounds in Booneville, CA. Featuring: Tim O'Brien, Salamander Crossing, Joel Mabus, Katzenjammers, Cronan, Spiral Bound, Cajun Coyotes, Patrice Ka'ohi, a band scramble and open mikes. The festival offers workshops, a craft fair, children's activities, open mikes and jams and on-site camping facilities. For information, contact Wild Iris Productions, P.O. Box 262, Philo, CA 95466; phone 707-895-3439.
- June 6-13 — **Steve Kaufman's Flatpicking Camp**, Maryville, TN. For information, call 1-800-FLATPIK.
- June 4, 5 & 6 — **7th Annual Minnesota Homegrown Kickoff** at the Camp in the Woods Resort, one hour north of Minneapolis, Minnesota. A three day outdoor music and camping festival with shows by twenty regional performers of traditional bluegrass, old-time and related music. For information, call 1-800-635-3037.
- June 17 - 20 — **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, Illrd Tyme Out, Larry Sparks & the Lonesome Ramblers, The Sand Mountain Boys, Dave Evans and River Bend, Mountain Heart, Country Ham, The Crooked Jades, Special Consensus, Northern Pacific, Witcher Brothers, Within Tradition, Tim Graves and Cherokee, 5 For the Gospel, The Kathy Kallick Band, Kids on Bluegrass and the Thunderfoot Cloggers. Advance discount tickets now on sale through June 7, 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. For handicapped camping reservations, call Lolan Ellis at 510-521-6778.
- June 17 - 20 — **Telluride Bluegrass** in Telluride, CO. For information or tickets, contact Planet Bluegrass, 500 Main St., Lyons, CO 80540; phone: 303-449-6007; FAX 303-823-0849; e-mail: planet@bluegrass.com.
- June 18, 19 & 20 — **Huck Finn's Country & Bluegrass Jambo-ree**, Mojave Narrows Regional Park, Victorville, CA. Featuring: Marty Stuart, The Dillards, The Osborne Brothers, Lost Highway, Mountain Heart, the Freight Hoppers, the Grasshoppers, Julie

(Continued on Page 36)

Upcoming Bluegrass, Old-time and Gospel Music Events

(Continued from Page 35)

Wingfield, Circuit Riders, and more. For information or tickets, write to: Huck Finn Jubilee, P.O. Box 56419, Riverside, CA 92517; call 909-780-8810; or visit their website at: <http://huckfin.com>

• June 18 - 20 — **Live Oak Music Festival** at Live Oak Camp, just over San Marcos Pass, twenty minutes west of Santa Barbara, CA. For information or tickets, call KCBX at 805-781-3169 or visit their web site at: <www.kcbx.org/liveoak>

• June 22 - 26 — **12th Annual Texas State Bluegrass Festival** at Trade Days Park in Canton, Texas. For information or tickets, contact Pat Conrad, 1004 Bonham St., Paris TX 75660; phone 903-785-5394; FAX 903-739-2000; or e-mail: <patc@neto.com>

• June 25, 26 & 27 — **17th Annual Summer Solstice Folk Music, Dance and Storytelling Festival** on the campus of Soka University in Calabasas, California. For information or tickets, contact Elaine or Clark Weissman at 818-342-7664. Or e-mail: <ctms@lafn.org>

JULY

• July 9, 10 & 11 — **The Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival**, Bolado Park, Hollister, CA. Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society. Partial line-up includes: David Thom Band, Foggy Mountain Jam, Highway, New Birth Lake Ramblers, Sidesaddle & Co. More bands to be added. For information or tickets, contact Penny Godlis, 540 N. Santa Cruz Ave. #104, Los Gatos, CA 95030 or phone 408-353-1762.

• July 10 & 11 — **10th Annual Bitterroot Valley Bluegrass Festival** at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton, Montana. Featuring: Front Range, the Bluegrass Patriots, Deep River, Mike and Tari Conroy, the Mountain Poodle Band, Long Overdue, Deep River, Homestyle Bluegrass, and The Fifth String. For information or tickets, contact Mark Dickerson at 406-363-4444; e-mail: <mark@montananet.com> or visit their web page at www.montanenet.com/bluegrass/fest.htm

• July 14 - 17 — **McCullough Park Family Bluegrass Festival** at McCullough Park Campground, 5 miles North of Chillicothe, Missouri on Hwy. 65. For information or tickets, phone 660-646-2795.

• July 14 - 18 — **The 2nd Annual Mid-West National Bluegrass Festival** at the Allen County Fair Grounds, 2750 Harding Hwy. St. Rt. 309 East near Lima, Ohio. Featuring: John Hartford, the McLain Band, Ricky Skaggs, and more. For tickets or information, call M.O.W. at 419-358-4868.

• July 15 - 18 — **16th Annual Peaceful Valley Bluegrass Festival** at Peaceful Valley, HC-89 Box 56 Banker Road, Downsville, NY 13755. For information, call 888-413-0137 or 607-363-2211; FAX 607-363-2028 or visit their web site at: <www.peaceful-valley.com>

• July 16-18 — **Darrington Bluegrass Festival**, Bluegrass Grounds, Darrington, WA. Featuring: Dave Evans and The River Bend, Great Northern Planes, Sawtooth Mountain Boys, and many more. For tickets or infor-

mation, write: Bluegrass & Country Music Makers Association, PO Box 519 Darrington, WA 98241; or call 360-436-1006.

• July 16 - 18 — **Southern Utah Fiddle Championships And Bluegrass Music Festival** in Kenab, Utah (85 miles East of St. George). Featuring: contests in fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, bluegrass band, and movie-star look-alike. Entertainment by Marty Warburton Band, Andy Rau Band, Mike & Bertye Band and Slickrock String Band. Limited dry camping on site, nearby RV parks, motels, transportation to parks available. For information, Call: 435-644-5330 or 800-551-1714; e-mail: <frontier@xpressweb.com>; or visit their web site at: <www.utahadventure.com/fiddle/index.htm>

• July 22 - 25 — **Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival** at Skamania County Fairgrounds in Stevenson, WA. Sponsored by American Legion Post #137. Early Bird tickets available through May 1, 1999. For further information and ticket order form, contact John Skaar, 21 Fern Hill Rd., Stevenson, WA 98648; call 509-427-8928; or e-mail: <skaargr@gorge.net>

• July 30 - August 1 — **8th Annual Wolf Mountain Bluegrass Festival** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California. Featuring: Vern and Ray (Vern Williams and Ray Park, with Herb Pedersen, Ed Neff and Steve Pottier), Laurel Canyon Ramblers, Sam Hill, Crane Canyon, Blade Runners, High Country, Crooked Jades, Lone Prairie and more. For tickets or information, contact Dave Baker at 408-425-2270; write

to: PO Box 91 Santa Cruz, CA 95063; email: <DBaker@Briogon.com>; or visit the website: <Briogon.com/wolf>

• July 30 - August 1 — **2nd Annual High Country Superjam**, Murray Summit Campground, Ely, Nevada. Sponsored by the Southern Nevada Bluegrass Music Society. For information call 775-235-7437; 775-289-4823 or 775-235-7424; or e-mail: bilt@idsely.com or perijone@netxpress.net.

• July 31 — **Bowers Mansion Bluegrass Festival** at the Historic Bowers Mansion between Carson City and Reno, Nevada. Sponsored by the Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association. For information, call 775-594-6422.

AUGUST

• August 4 - 7 — **Grant's 31st Annual Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival** in Salt Creek Park, Hugo, Oklahoma. For information or tickets, contact Bill Grant, Rt. 2 Box 74 Bill Grant Road, Hugo, OK 74743 or call 580-326-5598.

• August 6, 7 & 8 — **20th Annual Minnesota Bluegrass and Old-time Music Festival** at the Camp in the Woods Resort, one hour North of Minneapolis, Minnesota. For information, call 1-800-635-3037.

• August 13-15 — **Mount St. Helens Bluegrass Festival** at Toledo High School in Toledo, WA. Food, camping, workshops, open mic, gospel show. For information, call 360-690-4345.

• August 14-15 — **9th Annual White Mountain Bluegrass Music Festival**, Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ. For information, call 520-367-4290.

• August 16-19 — **Oregon Late Summer Bluegrass Festival** at the Hood River County Fairgrounds in Hood River, Oregon. For information or tickets, contact Dale Lawrence Productions at 1923 NE 134th Place, Portland, OR 97230 or phone 503-408-7692.

• August 18 - 21 — **27th Annual Kahoka Festival of Bluegrass Music** at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Kahoka, Missouri. For information or tickets, call 573-853-4344.

• August 23-27 — **Bluegrass at the Beach** in New Halem, OR. A week of intensive instruction, good food, and beach camping. For information, contact Stephen Ruffo at <ruffo@olympus.net> or phone 360-385-6836.

• August 26 - 28 — **The Best of Missouri Bluegrass** at Lathrop Antique Car and Tractor Park in Lathrop, Missouri. For information or tickets, contact Neal and Mary Backeus, Bluegrass Enterprises, 3209 S. Ten Mile Dr., P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102-7170; phone 573-636-0536; or visit their web site at: <www.bluegrassworld.com/festival/lathrop>

Dear Readers -- We ran out of room this month.

Please look for the return of

• **Bluegrass on the Internet**

• **Places to Find Acoustic Music**

• **Turn Your Radio On**

• **Upcoming events August +**

• **Where Can I Go?**

in the next issue.

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