

BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Vol. 25 No. 12

Website: http://www.californiabluegrass.org - E-mail: cbawpn@volcano.net

April 2000

Country Ham and Doyle Laswson & Quicksilver to perform for CBA's Silver Anniversary Festival in Grass Valley this June 15-18

by Suzanne Denison

The sounds of Old-time Appalachian clawhammer banjo and Autoharp will echo through the tall pine trees on the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California this June as Country Ham returns to CBA's Festival stage to help us celebrate our Silver Anniversary Bluegrass Festival.

Throughout the past several months, we have been featuring the bands who will appear June 15-18, 2000 on our Festival stage. If you missed an issue, you'll be able to catch up with the bands in our annual Souvenir Program, where each band will be profiled and (hopefully) pictured.

Headed by one of CBA's founding members, Carl Pagter and his wife, Judie Cox Pagter, the band presents audience-pleasing shows with their high energy style of old-time music.

Country Ham's performances on the fiddle, clawhammer banjo, guitar, autoharp and bass always have a lively tempo which tempts listeners to tap their toes or even break into a clog dance.

The band originated in the Washington, D.C. area in 1975 when Carl Pagter was living and working in that area. Carl is the clawhammer banjo player and baritone lead singer of the group. His wife, Judie Cox Pagter is the band's autoharpist who also sings lead and harmony vocals. Judie is well known in the Autoharp world and presents instructional

workshops at a number of festivals and contests on the east coast.

Other members of Country Ham are M.D. Mallory on guitar, Bob White on bass, and Joe Meadows on fiddle.

Country Ham will be performing on the CBA Festival stage for two sets on Thursday, June 15; one set on Friday, June 16; and for both of the Corn Masher dancers sets on Friday and Saturday in the Children's Program area.

The sweet sounds of Southern Gospel quartet singing and some of the finest musicians in the country will be featured on our stage when Doyle Laswon and Quicksilver appear on Saturday and Sunday (June 17 and 18, 2000).

Most bluegrass fans are familiar with Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, one of the premier Bluegrass and Gospel bands in the country. Doyle Lawson began his bluegrass career over thirty years ago playing banjo for Jimmy Martin and the Sunny Mountain Boys. A few years later, he became the guitar player for J.D. Crowe and the Kentucky Mountain Boys, and in 1971, joined the Country Gentlemen. During his eight years with that vanguard group, he established himself as a renowned tenor singer, mandolin player, producer and arranger.

The face of bluegrass music changed in 1979, when Doyle



COUNTRY HAM -- (left to right) Joe Meadows, Bob White, Carl Pagter, M.D. Mallory and Judie Cox Pagter. They will be performing on CBA's Festival stage on June 15 and 16 and for the Corn Mashers (dancers) performances on Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17.

Photo by Corbin Pagter

formed his ground-breaking band, Quicksilver. At a time when influences of "newgrass" and

See CBA FESTIVAL on page 12

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

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E-mail: SuzieVan@aol.com Coordinators Grant Johnston, Festival Coordinator 456 E. Sacramento Ave., Chico, CA 95926 Phone: 530-895-8560 E-mail: cban2000@aol.com Faye Downs - Volunteer Coordinator 1552 Vervais Ave., Vallejo, CA 94591 Phone: (707) 552-6934 E-mail: bilnfay@ix.netcom.com Monte Elston - Gate Crew Coordinator 4828 Western Ave., Olivehurst, CA 95961-4125 Phone: 530-749-9504 E-mail: fidle3@syix.com Neale & Irene Evans - Mercantile Coordinators 18 Waterfront Court, Sacramento, CA 95831 Phone: (916) 427-1214 Bob Gillim - Electrical Consultant 260 Elliott Dr., Menlo Park, CA 94025 Phone: (650) 322-6410 Terry Ingraham - Children's Program Coordinator 917 Grand St., Alameda, CA 94501 Phone: (510) 521-0475 Gene Kirkpatrick — Concessions Coordinator 1609 Amanda Court, Stockton, CA 95209 Phone: (209) 473-1616 - FAX (209) 472-1323 E-mail: genekatt@earthlink.com David Runge - Advance Ticket Sales Coordinator 215 Grant Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952 Phone: (707) 762-8735 Gerry Szostak - Asst. Stage Set-up Coord. 946 Bond Pl., Windsor, CA 95492 Phone: (707) 836-9669 Janet Wicker - Back Stage Coordinator 1538 W. 12th St., Merced, CA 95340

Phone: (209) 722-2308



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 1974 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 next meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, April 9th at 1:30 p.m. at the home John Duncan in Sacramento. 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: http://www.californiabluegrass.org Editor Suzanne Denison Columnist and Feature Writer Elena Corey Columnist Howard Polley Feature Writer...... Larry Carlin Feature Writer George Martin Graphic Art and Layout Denison Desktop Publishing Photographer Howard Gold Recording Reviews .. Larry Carlin, Ken Reynolds & Tom Sours

Writers, artists, musicians and photographers are encouraged to submit their original materal for publication in the Bluegrass Breakdown. please send to the Editor at the address above. Email submissions are appreciated. Files can be read in either Mac or DOS formats.

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the figure 4 to 1 a like	s Association Membership Application	Type of membership: Single - 1 vote
Name	Spouse —	Couple - 2 votes
		Single or Couple With non-voting children
Address	Child(ren)	Single or Couple with voting children
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.		Children's names and Birthdates:
City	State Zip	
and the second s		If Senior Citizens, please list birthdates:
Phone	- Single Membership	
E-mail:	_ With Spouse Added\$17.50	
	Children 12-18 (non-voting)\$1.00 each	
v. 1. v. v. n	Children 12-18 (voting)	Membership Total \$
Mail to: Mrs. Mary Runge	Band Memberships (3-5 members) \$25.00	
CBA Membership Vice President 215 Grant Avenue	Membership includes 12 issues of the <i>Bluegrass Breakdown</i> , and discount prices for the Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival and all CBA	New [] Renewal [] Member #
Petaluma, CA 94952	sponsored concerts. Each band member is entitled to receive a copy of	Volunteer area
(707) 762-8735	the publication. Please list names and addresses on a separate sheet.	

Editor's Corner

by Suzanne Denison

Spring has sprung and the grass has rizz. This is where the music is! This paraphrase of a slogan which I remember from my childhood when we were temporarily living near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (which advertised drive-in movies), seems to fit the bill this month.

We had unusual weather up here on Blue Mountain this winter. The first few months were dry and warmer than usual, and then in February and early March, Mother Nature let us have it big time with a whole series of storms. We had rain, rain and more rain. Then in early March we had days when it rained, snowed, sleeted, hailed, and the sun shone—all on the same day!

Now that spring is here, the weather seems to have settled down somewhat on the west coast, and we are having more sunny days than not. Up here in our neck of the woods we have wild flowers blooming and even my daffodils and tulips have put on a show. It won't be long before the fruit trees are in bloom and time to get the garden ready to plant. We have a nightly chorus of frogs from the spring in our side pasture, and the birds are singing in the budding trees.

Spring is one of my favorite seasons, not only because of the beautiful flowers, and warmer weather, but also because it means that festival season isn't far away. All of the CBA festival

coordinators are hard at work making plans and checking off lists to make sure that all of the preparations are made for our annual Father's Day Festival this June. It is hard to believe that we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary this year. Time goes much faster as I get older.

Speaking of the CBA Festival, I made an error last month on the Advance Ticket sales ad. (Probably not my first, and I know not the last!) Luckily, Dave Runge pointed it out to me since it had been causing confusion for him. In the March ad, I said that camping from Monday, June 12 through Wednesday, June 14 was \$15 per unit for RVs and \$10 for tents". I guess I was thinking of the campout prices (or not thinking). The correct price is \$15 per night per unit for all campers. If you sent in your early camping money with your ticket order, you'll probably hear from David. If not, whether you pay in advance or when you get to the fairgrounds, the correct price is \$15. I sincerely apologize for the error and will try not to make it

Another request from Dave. When you send for your tickets, please enclose a Self-addressed, stamped, legal size envelope with your order and payment. Dave not only returns your tickets, he encloses a brochure with rules, regulations and festival information. Sending him a small envelope (6 1/2" X 3 1/2") doesn't

work and either the sender or the recipient has to pay extra postage. Please remember folks, Dave (and all of the rest of us) is a volunteer and we want to keep him happy.

I hope that you have been able to attend some of the great concerts and jams which have taken place in our part of California the past month or so, and that you're planning to attend those in April and the coming months. The only way to keep Bluegrass and Old-time music alive is to support these events, the musicians and the promoters. Please see the upcoming events portion of this issue for more festivals and concerts from April through October. We'll add more each month as the information is provided.

Volunteers are still needed for the CBA Festival this June. If you would like to offer your services and time, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Faye Downs at 707-552-6934. Whateveryour interests or talents, Faye will know where you are needed and will be appreciated. If you have been a volunteer at past festivals and your area coordinator has not contacted you, please be patient. We're all volunteers, and sometimes real life intrudes on festival work.

Helping to publicize our festival is one area where we need everyone's help. This effort takes place before the Festival, starting about now. Flyers and posters



need to be distributed to as many parts of the state as possible. We wouldn't mind volunteers in Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona and other states as well. If you would be willing to put up posters in your area, hand out flyers at your jam sessions or to friends, and let your local radio stations know about our Festival, please call George Martin at 510-237-4365 or e-mail him at: 76766.1166@compuserve.com. You can also call and leave the

information with me at 209-293-1559 or e-mail: cbawpn@ volcan.net. We'd sure appreciate your help. You will also be able to pick up flyers and posters at the CBA's spring camp out in Grass Valley the weekend of April

I've rambled along enough for this month. Happy Easter to you and your family. We hope to see you all in Grass Valley at the end of April, and until then, enjoy the music!

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, call (209) 293-1559; FAX (209) 293-1220 or e-mail: cbawpn@volcano.net.

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 - E-mail: cbawpn@volcano.net



Bring your whole family... (friends and instruments too) and join us for the CBA's Annual Spring Campout and Picker's Paradise at the **Nevada County Fairgrounds** in Grass Valley, California!

Friday, April 28 to Sunday, April 30, 2000 Only cost is camping fees: \$15 for RVs and \$7 tents per night. For information, call Bob Crowder at 530-671-6735

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FENDER STRING MASTER dual, 6 string Lap Steel with 4 tellescoping legs. Blond finish with hard shell case. All original, excellent condition, 1960's vintage. Asking \$1,000. Call 925-930-7093. 3x2/00

BLUEGRASS AT 60, without learning a single chord. How I got into bluegrass music at an old age and am having more fun than anybody I know. The book \$11.98 postpaid. TJE Publications, Box 50141, Reno, NV 89513. 1x4/00

ADVANCE TICKETS FOR WOLF MOUNTAIN BLUE-GRASSS FESTIVAL, July 28-30 in Grass Valley, Bob Paisley and others, Advance tickets \$49 for all 3 days including camping. More info: (831) 425-2270, PO Box 91 Santa Cruz, CA 95063, dbaker@briogon.com, www.briogon.com/wolf.

CBA LOGO MERCHANDISE makes great gifts for your family and friends. Bumper Stickers, Buttons, Calendars, Cookbooks, Coffee Mugs, Caps, Sports Bottles, Sweatshirts, Tshirts, Jackets, Visors and much more available now at reasonable prices. PRE-FESTIVAL SEA-SON Discount Prices — see the order blank on the back page of this issue for easy shopping by mail.

ADVANCE DISCOUNT TICK-ETS for the 25th Annual — Silver Anniversary — CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival (June 15-18, 2000) are now onsale. Orderyourtickets NOW and save \$\$\$. Ticket order form on page 13 of this issue.

LESSONS

BANJO LESSONS IN BAY AREA from Bill Evans. Rounder recording artist, Banjo Newsletter columnist and AcuTabauthor. Beginners to advanced; Scruggs, melodic and singlestring styles, back-up, theory, repertoire. Lessons tailored to suit each student's individual needs, including longer evening or weekend sessions for out-oftown students. Over 20 years teaching experience. El Cerrito, (510) 234-4508; e-mail: bevans@nativeand fine. com. 6/99;6x

LESSONS

BANJO LESSONS WITH ALLEN **HENDRICKS** of Hend-ricks Banjos, the California Quickstep, and formerly of the South Loomis Quickstep. I teach all styles of five string banjo playing that can be done with finger picks. All levels from rank beginner to the accomplished player who may need additional direction to take his or her playing to a higher level. Private individual lessons as well as teaching your group to compliment each other's styles and abilities. I teach at my own private studio in the Sacramento Area. I also teach in my home just north of Placerville. I play banjo, I make banjos, and I sometimes buy and sell banjos and other stringed instruments. For further information or to schedule lesson times, please call (916) 614-9145 or (530) 622-1953.

NOTICE

CBA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2000 — Introduce your family and friends to the California Bluegrass Association — recruit them as new members and be eligible for fabulous prizes! Every CBA member who recruits a new member is eligible for the prize drawing to be held at the CBA Festival next June in Grass Valley, CA. See the special membership form on Page 11 of this issue.

RECORDING

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Over thrity years experience. Acoustic music a specialty. Direct-to-stereo for extremely natural-sounding results or multi-tracking/mixdown when desired. Digital editing and master preparation. High quality equipment and good "people skills". Reasonable rates. HANK ALRICH, PO Box 869, Greenville CA 95947, (530) 284-6053 Voice (530) 284-6052 FAX, email: walkinay@thegrid. net. 6xpd3/00

WANTED

VOLUNTEER CBA MERCAN-TILE BOOTH COORDINA-TORS—Year-round position for the right volunteers. Must have accounting or merchandising experience. Please call Irene Evans at 916-427-1214 for information.

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

In Memory — Pee Wee King

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)-Frank
"Pee Wee" King, who co-wrote
the "Tennessee Waltz" and introduced electric instruments and
horns to the Grand Ole Opry,
died Tuesday (March 7, 2000) at
86.

King had been hospitalized after suffering a heart attack Feb. 28.

Born Julius Frank Anthony Kuczynski in Abrams, Wis., King wrote "Tennessee Waltz" with fellow band member Red Stewart in 1947. The two said they wrote it on an unfolded matchbox as they were riding in Stewart's truck.

While King's recording did well, a version of the song by Patti Page became a No. 1 pop hit and sold 65 million copies. It became the state song of Tennessee in 1965.

In 1974, King was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. "I learned a lot about showmanship from him," said country music singer Eddy Arnold, who played in King's band, the Golden West Cowboys, in the 1940s.

King and the band appeared in several of Gene Autry's movies. They also appeared in Westerns with Charles Starret, the Durango Kid, and Johnny Mack Brown. The band members were written into the script so they could perform the smooth, Western swing music that was their trademark.

Thanks to Michelle R. Durham for the above information via BGRASS-L.

Band and Musician News Notes...

CD Release Party!

Join Barry & Annie Ernst and their band Ain't Misbehavin' for an evening of acoustic swing, bluegrass & more on Friday, April 21, 2000 at Deer Park Villa in Fairfax.

Featuring songs from their newly released album "Run To Love" as well as western swing favorites, bluegrass, and eclectic acoustic offerings. The band features the tight harmonies of Barry & Annie, backed by acoustic instrumentation, including guitar, fiddle, upright bass, and more, with special guest David Phillips on pedal steel and dobro! 8-11 p.m. Dinner Buffet. Cover: \$3/5. Call 456-8084 for further information. Visit www.morning glorymusic.com to hear music samples from "Run To Love."



Tina Louise Barr to perform at "Harps in High Gear!" on May 13

Master performer of the Autoharp, Tina Louise Barr, will be performing at the fourth annual Harps in High Gear! concert on Saturday, May 13. The event will be held at the Unity Church, 2467 Veneman Avenue in Modesto, CA at 7:30 p.m.

This year's concert will also feature internationally acclaimed virtuoso Ramon Romero on the

Paraguayan Folk Harp.

Advance tickets are \$8 and are now on sale by mail order through May 4. To order tickets, send a check or money order and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Harps in High Gear!, 1801 H Street, Suite B-5 #225, Modesto, CA 95354.

For further information, call 209-480-4477.



"Western Lights releases new CD

Western Lights, a local band from the Sacramento area, held a CD release concert at the 5th string music store in Sacramento on January 15. Their new CD, "Favorites of Ours", includes a diverse mix of bluegrass, gospel, western swing, fiddle tunes and other related music styles the band enjoys playing.

The group consists of Bill Ward on guitar, Melvin Fong on Fiddle and hammered dulcimer, Martha Evins on fiddle and rhythm guitar, Mike Brooks on banjo and mandolin, and Jerry Hendrix on bass.

The group's music has strong roots in traditional bluegrass with nice three and four part harmony vocals with the banjo, fiddle, mandolin and guitar all featured at times as lead instruments. The use of twin fiddles and the hammered dulcimer are other unique features of the band. Beyond bluegrass, their new CD demonstrates the group's versatility and

Volunteers needed for CBA's 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival

Would you like to be a part of the CBA's Festival Team? We offer friendship, fun, and an opportunity to utilize your skills and talents. The dates of this year's festival are June 15-18, 2000, and early camping opens on Monday, June 12.

We need volunteers starting on Monday, June 12 through the Monday after the Festival, June 19.

Here is an opportunity to work in the beautiful great outdoors under the pine trees in Grass Valley, California.

Pay? You ask. No, but once

you've joined our friendly team of volunteers, you will receive smiles, hugs, and a real feeling of satisfaction as you help produce an event enjoyed by thousands.

We need people with all kinds of talents and abilities. Some of the volunteer areas are gate greeters and ticket takers/sellers, fairgrounds and audience security, ice booth workers, tent camping patrollers, stage set-up crew workers, children's program helpers and instructors, and telephone answerers. These are just a few of the areas in which you can help.

Also needed are folks willing to help with Festival publicity. We need people in all areas of California to post flyers and posters for our festival and/or place copies of the *Bluegrass Breakdown* where folks can pick them up.

If you would like to be a CBA volunteer, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Faye Downs at 1552 Vervais Ave., Vallejo, CA 94591; phone: 707-552-6934; or e-mail: bilnfay@ix.netcom.com.

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

love of other related music styles. For more information on Western Lights, contact Bill Ward at (916) 361-8248 or e-mail: <wardclan@ix.netcom.com."



Barry Scott Gospel song nominated as a Dove Award finalist

Barry Scott, songwriter and guitarist for Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, is a finalist for a Dove Award for his song, "Nothing can touch me". Doyle describes it as, "A wonderful song of faith and of the things in our daily lives that touch us, but they must first pass through God's

The Dove Awards are presented by the Gospel Music Association and will be given out this year on April 20 in Nashville, TN. Songs by the Lewis Family, The Principals, Tim Surrett and

two other groups are also up for the same award.

'Winding Through Life" by Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver was in the finals for a Grammy Award in the Southern, Bluegrass and Country Gospel category along with Roy Clark, Glen Campbell, Bill and Gloria Gaither and JD Sumner & The Stamps Quartet. Although they did not win the award, Doyle said it was an honor to be nominated.

You will have a chance to see Dovle Lawson and Quicksilver perform this June at the CBA's Silver Anniversary 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA. The band will perform twice on Saturday, June 17 and once again on Sunday, June 18, 2000. If you haven't ordered your ticket, there is an order form on page 13 of this issue for your convenience.



New member added to Ron Spears & Within Tradition

Hal Horn, formerly of California Quickstep and the Big Valley Band, has joined Ron Spears & Within Tradition as their banjo player, lead and harmony singer. Other members of the band are Ron Spears on mandolin; Charlie Edsell on guitar; Jerry Logan on bass; and Bruce Johnson on fiddle.

The band will be performing at the Wolf Mountain Bluegrass Festival (July 28-30) in Grass Valley and at Bowers Mansion Festival (July 29) in Nevada.



Northern Nevada Festival updates

Vicki Hass of the Northern **Nevada Bluegrass Association** announced recently that the



Bowers Mansion Festival will be held on July 29 at the historic Bowers Mansion State Park, located about half way between Reno and Carson City, Nevada.

Featured entertainers this year include: Ron Spears & Within Tradition, Doodoo Wah, Mary Murphy, the Back Forty, the Comstock Cowboys, Too Tall For Our Hair, the Northern Nevada Volunteer Orchestra and more to be announced.

More great news for bluegrass fans - the Fallon Bluegrass Festival is being revived by a committee of local bluegrass folks in cooperation with the Fallon Chamber of Commerce. It will be held on September 29, 30 and October 1, 2000 on the country fairgrounds in Fallon, Nevada. Watch future issues for further information and a line-up.

For more information on either festival, call Vicki Hass at 775-882-6013.



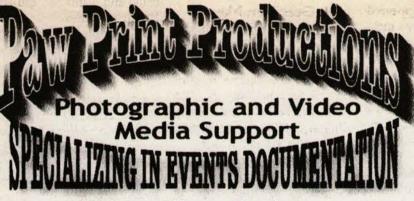
New Bluegrass venue in Newcastle

A new venue is opening its doors to live bluegrass music. Of course it is conditional on folks showing up to support the bands.

Beginning on March 16, Constable Jacks, at 515 Main Street, in Newcastle, just up I-80 from Roseville, but west of Auburn, with that great band Tenbrooks, (now mostly based in the Sacramento area).

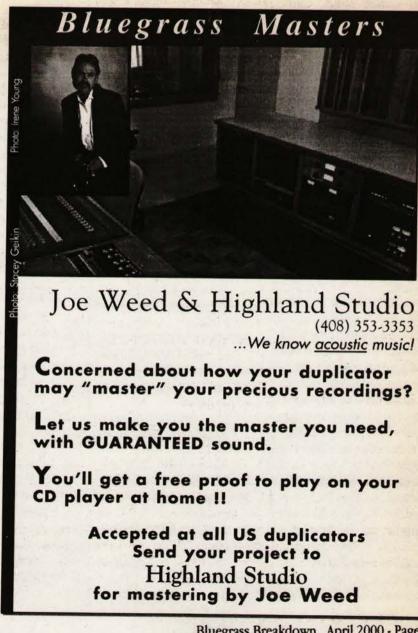
Dave Putnam, now an area resident, is responsible for opening the door to bluegrass at this venue. He says the place has a

Continued on page 6



Music and Theme Festivals **Corporate Meetings and Banquets Community Homecomings Professional Conferences** School and Church Programs **Weddings and Parties** Concerts/Theatrical Performances **Performer Promotional Packages** Video PSAs - Pre/Post Prod/Formatted Creative Design Consultation

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BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

Continued from page 5 wonderful sound system, good stage, and great food. Constable Jacks is a bar/restaurant combination and specializes in Italian food. They plan to feature bluegrass every other Thursday.

Current Tenbooks band members are founding members David Putnam - lead vocals, guitar and Robbie MacDonald tenor vocals, banjo; with Sacramento area locals Matt Dudman (mandolin), Tim Prior (bass) and Kevin Bennett (fiddle). Come hear some top-quality traditional bluegrass in Newcastle.

Sacramento area CBA V.P., Bob Thomas said, "For some years, many along the I-80 corridor have wanted to see live bluegrass. Some would drive clear up to Billy Bob's Park & Pork in Pollock Pines. Well, here is your chance to show your support for live bluegrass, much closer to home."

"The restaurant now needs to see our support. Come for a meal, or come for coffee, but come if you can," Bob urged.



Radio News Notes Bluegrass Signal April program features announced

"Bluegrass Signal" is broadcast on Saturdays (6-7 pm) on KALW (91.7 FM) in San Francisco. Producer/host Peter Thompson provides a complete calendar of upcoming bluegrass events, plus these features:

- April 1: Hit Parade Of Love: for this day o' fools, a survey of novelty songs (with some redeeming musical merit) by Jimmy Martin, Paul Shelasky, and oth-
- April 8: What Goes 'Round: catching up with all the new releases.
- April 15: If You've Got The Money, Honey: bluegrass songs for last-minute tax filing. Refund bonus: the David Thom Band drops by to chat about their new CD and upcoming concerts.
- April 22: Happy Birthday, Pat Enright: a collection of this powerful singer-guitarist's music with the Nashville Bluegrass Band, Dreadful Snakes, and others.

 April 29: Festival Previews: music to help you plan your summer activities.



Record Company News Notes... Herschel Sizemore recording new Hay Holler release

Herschel Sizemore will go into the studio (Eastwood Recording Studio, Cana, Virginia) this month to record his second album for Hay Holler Records. Playing with Herschel on this all-instrumental project will be Terry Baucom - banjo, Ron Stewart - fiddle, Jimmy Haleyguitar, and Eddie Biggerstaff - bass fiddle. Herschel has written several new tunes for the album. Projected release is for late June - early July.

Herschel's first Hay Holler album, HHH-105, an IBMA finalist for Instrumental Recording of the Year in 1994, is still in print.

Herschel is currently playing with Junior Sisk and Rambler's Choice.

For further information, contact Kerry Hay via e-mail at: hayhollr@usit.net or telphone 540-552-7959.



Rounder Artists on the Bluegrass Unlimited Chart, March 2000

Best of bluegrass, as compiled by *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine, dedicated to the furtherance of bluegrass and old-time country musicians, devotees and associates. **Rounder Records'** artists on the March 2000 chart are:

Top Bluegrass Albums:

- 3. Laurie Lewis & Her Bluegrass Pals, Laurie Lewis
- 4. John & Mary, IIIrd Tyme Out
- 6. High Lonesome, Longview 8. You'll Never Be the Sun, Lynn
- Morris 15. Back Home Again, Rhonda Vincent

Top Bluegrass Songs:

3. "John and Mary," IIIrd Tyme Out

- 4. "Tall Pines," Laurie Lewis & Her Bluegrass Pals
- 5. "High Lonesome," Longview
- "Hard Luck and Trouble," Laurie Lewis & Her Bluegrass Pals
- "You'll Never Be the Sun," Lynn Morris
- "The Likes of You," Lynn Morris
- 24. "Never Got Off the Ground," Alison Krauss
- 25. "Lonesome Wind Blues," Rhonda Vincent
- 29. "Rose of My Heart," IIIrd Tyme Out
- 30. "Memories That Bless and Burn," Dry Branch Fire Squad



Miscellaneous News Notes...

SPBGMA 2000 Band Contest Winners

Thanks to Frank Overstreet for sending us the following information.

In addition to the band performances, workshops and other activities, the Society for the Preservation of Blue Grass Music in America (SPBGMA) conducts a Bluegrass Band Contest each year. This year's SPBGMA festivities were held at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee on February 5 & 6, 2000.

The bands who participated in the contest and their placements are:

- 1st Place: New Reflections, Marion, NC
- 2nd Place: First Impression, West Plains, MO
- 3rd Place: Art Stevenson & High Water, Junction City, WI
- 4th Place: Bluegrass Kinsmen, Richlands, VA
- 5th Place: Cockman Family, Sherrills Ford, NC
- 6th Place: New Time Bluegrass Band, Ashland, KY
- 7th Place: Dixie Train, Henager, AL
- •8th Place: Idletymes Band, Point Pleasant, WV
- 9th Place: Holland's, Clarksville, TN
- 10th Place: Valley Grass Express, Dunlap, TN
- 11h Place: Lone Mountain Band, Chickamonga, GA
- 12th Place: Nothin' Fancy, Buena Vista, VA



Stolen Instrument Alert

Dan Mazer (Banjer Dan) of southern California sent us the following information via e-mail.

Four musical instruments were stolen from the bed of my pickup truck on Friday night, March 3rd, 2000. The truck has a camper shell, and was parked behind the gate in my apartment complex's garage in Hillcrest. The last time I saw the instruments was around 9:00 p.m. on Friday, and they were gone on Saturday morning. All the instruments are in black hard-shell cases except the resonator guitar, which is in a black chipboard case.

The instruments are:

- Deering GDL 5-string banjo, Serial No. 65187. Burl walnut neck and resonator, unusually wide fingerboard, distinctive scratches on the back from lots of use. A Stelling pickup is inside, with the jack apparatus protruding near the tailpiece. Scruggs/Keith tuners on the 2nd and 3rd strings; the one on the second string is missing one of its screws. The cradle apparatus from a Slider Strap system is threaded through the head-tightening hooks, and the strap itself is in the case. The case is missing one of its latches, is lined in blue fabric, and has three bumper stickers: "The Del McCoury Band," "Mean People Suck," and "KPIG-FM."
- Washburn acoustic guitar. I don't know the model number or serial number. This guitar has a deep cutaway, and a built-in pickup system. There's a small dent in the top near the bridge, and the bridge saddle is pulling away from the top. The strap has a Native American pattern print.
- Regal resonator guitar. No serial number. Spray-painted black, with a wood chip missing from the back. Originally set up for Spanish-style playing, but converted to Hawaiian-style. Quarterman spiderstyle cone inside the resonator. The case has one of its latches blocked with black electrician's tape, and an old bumper sticker reading "I'm a

Knucklehead," from Red Knuckles and the Trailblazers.

think the model number is KM-60, and I don't know the serial number. Dark reddish-brown finish. Blue strap tied on to the peghead. Built-in McIntyre pickup. One of the tuning capstans is missing a washer, and the tailpiece cover and pickguard are both missing.

San Diego Police Department Case No. 00-014074. If you see someone with one of my instruments, and don't want to confront him/her directly, please call the San Diego Police Department at 619/531-2000, and cite the above Case Number.

If you see any of these instruments, please call me or the police at once! My telephone number is: 619/297-5774.



April Bluegrass Gold --David Thom Band and Keystone Crossing

On Tuesday, April 18, the one-year anniversary of the monthly bluegrass series Bluegrass Gold will take place at the Sweetwater in Mill Valley. The show is produced by Larry Carlin and Carltone Music.

This show will also be the Marin CD Release Party for The David Thom Band. David and his boys play hard-driving traditional and contemporary bluegrass and they have a wonderful new CD titled The David Thom Band Plays Bluegrass.

Keystone Crossing sings the songs of brother duos from the early days of country and bluegrass such as the Delmore, Monroe, Lilly, Everly and Louvin Brothers.

Both acts are from Mill Valley, and they are at the forefront of the Bay Area's bluegrass renaissance.

Bluegrass Gold has been a great success in its first year. Many thanks go out to the bands who have played the show (an extra big thanks to **Peter Rowan** for

See NEWS NOTES page 8

2nd Annual Mother's Day "Camp Rude"

Bluegrass Festival May 12th 13th & 14th 2000

Parkfield, California

Featuring:

World's Most Earthshaking Bluegrass Festival

Chris Jones & the Night Drivers Lost Highway

Witcher Brothers

Bladerunners





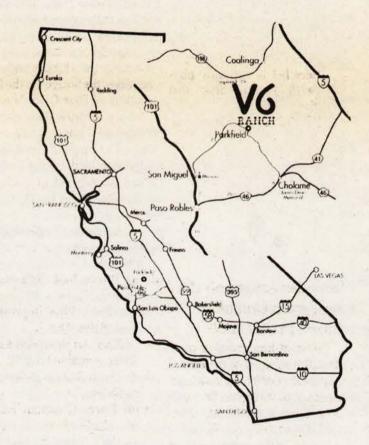




Emcees: Dale Lawrence * TJ Lyons * Dennis Witcher

Also: Bear Ridge All- Stars, Compost Mtn. Boys, Grateful Dudes, Highway 52, Lonesome Road, Parkfield Pea Hens, South Side, Tall Timber Boys, Wild Sage, Workshops by BanjerDan & Others, and More to be announced ...

- Flush Toilets & Hot Showers
- Tenting (Nice Shaded & Grassy)
- Special Gift for Mom's
- Limited Electric, (3 day ticket holders)
- Kids Mother's Day gift Workshop
- Shade & Grass in Stage & Tenting
- 65 new acres of Shaded Flat camping
- Easy RV Access from Hwy 101 or I-5
- Home Cooked Meals at Parkfield Inn
- Swimming, Horse Back Riding,
- Web Site Discount: www.camprude.com
- Wood Stoves (raised and contained rule)
- Motorcycles Welcome (Special Area)
- Golf Carts & Mtn. Biking (Most Areas)
- Pets (on leash w/ master, P.U.P. rule)
- Banjos (in caution zones)
- Band Scramble
- Cigars (Martha White Bus Area)
- Music, Gift, T- Shirt, Food, Etc. Vendors
- Jamming like it used to be (All Night Everywhere)



- ***Includes Camping from May 11th to May 14th
 - After April 15th 3 Day Ticket \$60
- * Less Rules More Fun!

3 Day Advance \$40

2 Day Advance \$30

- 2 Day Ticket \$40
- Absolutely Scenic Area
 Special Gift for Moms

- No Single Day Advance
- Single Day Ticket \$25
- 200 Miles from LA or SF

Single Day Advance Single

Visit our Web Site: www.camprude.com for special discount

To reserve your Spot in the Fun: Send Check or Money Order made out to Pat Conway "Bluegrass" * PO Box 44135 Lemon Cove, California 93244-4135

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

Continued from Page 6
playing the show last December),
and to all of the folks who have
come out to support bluegrass
in Marin County.

The Sweetwater is Marin County's premier nightclub as well as the home for bluegrass music in the North Bay. It is located at 153 Throckmorton in Mill Valley, Ca. For more information, call (415) 388-2820.



CBA Spring Campout to be in Grass Valley, CA on April 28-30

In addition to the Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, two of the events most of us look forward to are the CBA's spring and fall campouts. These weekend events give all of us a chance to camp, visit, and play music in a relaxing setting.

CBA's new Activities Vice President, Bob Crowder, has secured the sites and set the dates for both campouts for 2000.

The spring campout will be held on the weekend of April 28 - 30 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Only cost is camping fees which are \$15 per night per unit and \$7 for tents, truck bed or van sleepers (not self-contained) per unit per night.

We hope you'll make plans to come and enjoy camping, jamming and catching up with your Bluegrass family. We invite you to bring your family, friends, and instruments (or just come listen) for a wonderful, relaxing time.

No reservations are required for this events and camping is on a first-come, first-served basis. The Nevada County Fairgrounds has plenty of camping space with and without hookups. There are two RV dump stations on site.

The CBA Fall Campout, Annual Membership Meeting and Election will be held October 6-8, 2000 at the Colusa County Fairgrounds in Colusa, CA. Futher details and camping fees will be announced soon.

For more information, call Bob Crowder at 530-671-6735.



Redwood Bluegrass Associates announces 2000 Concert Series

Redwood Bluegrass Associates, a not-for-profit music corporation, recently announced its Winter/Spring 2000 concert series in Palo Alto, California. All shows are at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd. Show time 8:00 PM and the doors open at 7:30 PM.

April and May concerts are:

- April 1—Lost Highway. One of the southwest's top bands.
- May 13 Kathy Kallick Band. A bay area favorite.

Tickets are \$16 in advance and \$20 at the door for each show.

Tickets are available from Ticketweb (see the RBA web page or www.ticketweb.com or call 510-601-TWEB). Tickets will be available from Gryphon Stringed Instruments in Palo Alto after about February 15 [or thereabouts].

Tickets are available by mail from Redwood Bluegrass Associates, P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846. Please enclose a business-sized self-addressed stamped envelope and your check along with a note as to what you are ordering.

For more information, see Redwood Bluegrass Associates' web site at www.rba.org or call 650-691-9982.



Mariposa Bluegrass Festival slated for May 19-21, 2000

The Mariposa County Arts Council has announced the lineup for their Annual Bluegrass Festival, May 19-21, 2000, and none of the groups are strangers to the California bluegrass scene.

Mountain Heart, winners of the 1999 IBMA Emerging Artist award, will be returning to California after their stunning debut at Grass Valley last June. Joining them will be Continental Divide, The Fox Family, Kathy Kallick Band, Ron Spears and his newlyconstituted "Within Tradition", the Foothillbillys, The David Thom Band, and Mountain Laurel.

Mariposa is one of the friend-

liest festivals in the west, and with over 150 RV and tent sites with hookups, it is one of the best equipped for camping and jamming.

Tickets can be ordered from the ad appearing in this issue of the Breakdown, or by calling (800) 903-9936. Kids 16 and under are FREE with a paying adult, and a 3-day pass includes an all-you-can-eat country breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings.

As always, the festival will be held at the Mariposa County Fairgrounds, an ideal venue for great jamming and relaxing under the beautiful oak trees. Saturday, May 19 is Family Day at the festival, with plenty of fun and games

for children of all ages.

In addition, the festival will have plenty of food and craft booths making for a wholesome, fun-filled weekend. This year's raffle will be a Johnson JB-110 banjo, donated once again by Mariposa's own Cousin Jack, the Music Merchant.

If you've never visited this part of the Sierra foothills, you're in for a real treat. Come early and visit beautiful Yosemite National Park, only 45 minutes away, and then stroll the streets and visit the shops in lovely historic downtown Mariposa.



CBA member input sought for Festival Souvenir Program

Dear CBA Members:

The Father's Day Festival 2000 will be the 25th anniversary Festival. As a special feature in the souvenir portion of the Bluegrass Breakdown, we would like to pay tribute to CBA members who have passed away during the CBA's existence.

We are preparing a "In Memory of:" list that Suzanne Denison has agreed to publish for the June, 2000 issue and/or Festival Souvenir Program. While we have come up with quite a few names, they are only those people that Suzanne, Mary Runge or myself are aware of.

If you have a friend or relative that you would like to have listed in this "memorial", please contact me BEFORE MAY 1, 2000. Any names not received by that date, cannot be included in the list because Suzanne will need time to prepare for them before she goes to press in May for the June issue.

We would like to have as many names as possible and we simply don't know everyone.

Your help with this list will be appreciated.

You can call me at (209) 473-1616, write me at 1609 Amanda Ct., Stockton, CA 95209, or email me at genekatt@earth link.net.

> Kathy Kirkpatrick CBA President Stockton, CA

For the one and only Rose

April 15th of this year marks the second anniversary of the passing of Country and Bluegrass music legend, Rose Maddox.

In December of 1983, Rose suffered a severe heart attack. In January of 1984, after she returned home from the hospital I sat down one night to write her a letter. Try as I might the words just would not come to me as to what to write, trying to cheer her up. I must have sat there for at least four hours when out of the blue this poem came to me. I wrote the entire thing in about ten minutes.

I enclosed a short note that said "this is for you, Rose," and mailed it to her. About a month later Rose called me to say that she tried to call me almost every day to thank me, but she would start crying and couldn't finish dialing. Finally, though, she was able to call and we both had a good cry over the phone together.

Whenever we worked together on stage she always asked me to do "her poem" for her. It was my privilege to be able to do this for her several times at various festivals and shows over the years. I thought it would be fitting to remember her with it on this the second anniversary of her passing. I love you, Rose.

J.D. Rhynes West Point, CA

There's Only One Rose

The Rose of which I write Grows not in a garden from the earth

The Rose of which I speak comes from a garden

That only one knows her worth.

Only God can put a price upon A Rose so sweet and fair, For it was he that created her And put her here, for us to share.

And share with us she surely

Her voice over this land did ring.

For one, for ten, for a thousand! They had but to ask, and for them Rose would sing!

This Rose is a lady.
As anyone that knows her will

say

And compassion and virtue are her possessions And these will never fade away.

I've heard her sing so sweet, That only angels could compare.

And when she's on stage singin' for the folks,

You know it's Rose who's there!

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.

by J.D. Rhynes January 17, 1984 9th ANNUAL MARIPOSA COUNTY

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

MAY 19 + 20 + 21

CONTINENTAL

2000

KATHY KALLICK BAND

THE FOX FAMILY

1999 IBMA EMERGING ARTIST
MOUNTAIN HEART



RONSPEARS & WITHIN TRADITION

Also Featuring:

FOOTHILLBILLYS + DAVID THOM BAND + MOUNTAIN LAUREL



Payment Method: VISA/MC/AMEX

1 800 903-9936 FOR INFO & TICKETS

MARIPOSA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Indoor/Outdoor Facilities . Rain or Shine . No Refunds

Please send the following tickets for Mariposa's 9th Annual BLUEGRASS FESTIAL:	Qty	Price	Tota
★3-Day Festival Pass (ordered/postmarked ON OR BEFORE May 1, 2000)		\$43	
★3-Day Festival Pass (ordered/postmarked AFTER May 1, 2000)	PASS	\$48	- 11
Friday (May 19) only		\$17	
Saturday (May 20) only		\$19	
Sunday (May 21) only		\$17	
Saturday & Sunday (May 20 & 21) only		\$32	4
Children under 16 FREE with paying adult		\$00	in Si
★ 3-Day Festival Pass includes Country Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday		Total	Di teri
RV w/Hook-up - \$12 night Thurs Fri Sat Total Nights		Total	
To	tal En	closed	

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Indoor/Outdoor Fa	icilities -	Kain of snine - No Kerun	as
Card Number:			9
Dhone	Orders:	1 800 003 0036	

Pho	ne Orders: 1 800 903-	9936 FAX	Order: 209 966-3962
Check/Money Order Payable to:	Mariposa County Art	s Council • P. O. Box 2134	 Mariposa, CA 95338

Name		Phone (day)	(eve)	
Address	City	ST	ZIP	

CBA BOARD MEETING MINUTES SYNOPSIS



California Bluegrass
Association
Synopsis Of Board
Of Directors Meeting
February 13, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Carl Pagter, Chairman of the Board, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Gene and Kathy Kirkpatrick in Stockton, CA.

I. Roll Call:

- Board Members and Officers Present: Don Denison, J.D. Rhynes, Yvonne Gray, Kelly Senior, Rick Cornish, George Martin, Carl Pagter, Kathy Kirkpatrick, Grant Johnston, John Duncan, Mark Hogan, Howard Gold, Robert Crowder, Suzanne Denison, Sue Van Enger. Absent: Bob Thomas, Mary Runge, Matt Dudman.
- Coordinators Present: Neale Evans, Irene Evans, Gene Kirkpatrick, Karyn Noel, Montie Elston. Absent: David Runge, Faye Downs, Bob Gillim.
- Members Present: John Senior, Paul Gray, Darla Novak, Janet Wicker, Gerry Szostak.
- II. Secretary's Report: Sue Van Enger reported that she had mailed the final minutes to the homes of the board members. She stated there were corrections to be made to those minutes as follows: Date of spring campout is April 28-30, 2000; date of fall campout is October 6-3, 2000; at Grass Valley festival food vendors will receive two festival tickets and nonfood vendors will receive one festival ticket. Yvonne Gray made a motion to accept the January minutes as corrected. George Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Kelly Senior distributed the treasurer's report. She reported the Five for the Gospel concert was a success and made a profit. She plans to develop a year-by-year comparison of costs for the Father's Day Festival. Kelly gave a report on information obtained by

Montie Elston in regard to the tax the State of California is requiring to be withheld from performers at festivals. There was a discussion of different ways to handle the collecting and reporting of this tax.

- IV. Membership Report: In Mary Runge's absence, Kathy Kirkpatrick presented the membership report. She reported 2,674 voting members. This total includes the following memberships obtained at the Blythe and Buckeye festivals. At Blythe, there were 18 new, 4 re-joins and 11 renewals. At Buckeye, there were 8 new, 2 re-joins and 1 renewal.
- V. Mercantile Report: Irene Evans reported two mail orders in January Neale and Irene are looking for someone to take over the position of Mercantile Coordinator after this year's festival.
- VI. Old Business:
- A. Festival Timeline Grant Johnston:
 - Sound contract Discussion was held.
- Golf carts Grant will take care of this item.
- Specially featured band contracts Carl Pagter is working on these.
- Fairgrounds contract This will be returned to the fairgrounds by Carl Pagter before the due date.
- 5. Report on meeting with the fairgrounds Carl Pagter. Those in attendance were Carl Pagter, Grant Johnston, Gene Kirkpatrick, Harold Crawford representing the CBA and Ed Scofield, John Katis, Art Whitney, Mike Dobbins representing the Grass Valley fairgrounds.
 - Carl reported it was a satisfactory meeting.
 - There was discussion regarding the vehicles parking on the grass.
 - c. The condition of the tables was discussed. The fairgrounds will take that under advisement.
 - d. The fairgrounds is concerned about overloading the electrical circuits. Mark Hogan asked about the lights being run 24 hours per day. There are certain lights

that are required to be turned on at all times. J.D. Rhynes explained some of the reasons.

- e. There was discussion about the fee split for pre-festival camping. Carl said he feels another meeting needs to take place after the festival but before the beginning of next year to sort out the camping fee situation and the expectation of the fairgrounds for a fee increase.
- f. There was discussion regarding a classical music concert to be held during the same week as the festival. brought up the problem of parking and that was discussed. John Senior asked if the board felt it was time to form a committee to begin looking for possible alternate sites for the festival. Montie Elston suggested charging for parking of persons entering the fairgrounds but not attending the CBA festival. This situation will be discussed at the CBA member and board member retreat to be held at Carl Pagter's home on February 26, 2000.
- Security Contract This has been completed.
- Porta-potties Grant will find out the additional cost to have porta-potties with a dispenser for antibacterial gel.
- Lighting contract J.D. Rhynes gave a report. Rick Cornish made a motion to include the following: John Senior be appointed as Lighting Coordinator, the CBA approve the 0 for rental of the lighting system and extra lenses for this year's festival, and after the festival John to prepare a package for consideration of acquisition of a lighting system. Kelly Senior seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- B. Festival Coordinator Re-
- Ticket Booth -Kelly Senior reported that Mike McGar had not yet contacted her

regarding the position of ticket booth coordinator. He did, however, tell Madelyn Ellis he does not wish to have that position but would still like to be a volunteer. Kelly Senior asked Rick Cornish about any responsibilities he might have for the festival and she explained the responsibilities of ticket booth coordinator. Ricksaid he was willing to take on the position. Kelly Senior made a motion to appoint Rick Cornish as Ticket Booth Coordinator. Harold Crawford seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

- Advance Ticket Sales David Runge was not present.
- Children's Program—Terry Ingraham was not present.
- Entertainment Harold Crawford gave a report on performers and emcees.
- Concessions Gene Kirkpatrick reported that the concessionaires have been contacted and contracts sent out. The letter for the health permit has been sent.
- Gate Crew Montie Elston reported he has received a list of volunteers from Faye Downs. Kelly Senior will confer with Montie regarding responsibilities and volunteers.
- 7. Publicity Karyn Noel gave the report. Grant Johnston suggested a way to get younger people to the festival was to have them work as volunteers. George Martin talked about promotional measures with Ray Edlund at KPFA radio. Karyn plans to contact the radio stations. George has set up an interview with the Contra Costa Times for an article on Carl Pagter. He suggested anyone who knows of a local paper might do the same. Grant and George will get together regarding publicity. Rick Cornish made a motion to include the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce, Bass, Ticketweb, Fifth String Music in Berkeley and Fifth String Music in Sacramento as ticket outlets for the Father's Day Festival in Grass Valley. Don Denison seconded the motion. Avote was taken and the motion

- passed unanimously. A discussion followed regarding the posters and flyers. Rick Cornish made a motion to order 1500 flyers and 1000 posters and appoint Suzanne Denison to determine the size and place the order. J. D. Rhynes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- Security Yvonne Gray: This was covered earlier.
- Stage Construction J.D. Rhynes introduced Gerry Szostak who will be helping him.
- Volunteers Faye Downs was not present.
- 11. Restroom and Garbage Control It was reported that Steve Carney was to have a meeting with Grant Johnston, Carl Pagter, Kathy Kirkpatrick and Kelly Senior before the board meeting but was unable to attend this meeting. Another meeting will be set up.
- 12. Telephones Bob Dennison was not present but did send a report. Rick Cornish made a motion to approve the purchase of four telephones and necessary equipment. Don Denison seconded the motion. Avote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- C. Activities Vice Presidents' Reports:
- North Bay: Mark Hogan gave his report. He said the jam at Murphy's Irish Pub was a moderate success. He has sold two tickets to the Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek concert. The publicity should increase the interest.
- 2. CBA Activities: Bob Crowder reported that the spring and fall campouts have been scheduled. There was discussion regarding camping fees for these campouts. Rick Cornish made a motion that the following prices will apply to camping at the spring campout: \$15.00 per night for RV'sand pick-ups with campers; \$7.00 per night for tents or pick-ups with camper shells only or no camper. The motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- 3. Sacramento: Bob Thomas

CBA SYNOPSIS

was not present. Sue Van Enger read the report. Bob reported a profit on the Five for the Gospel and indicated very positive response. He said there is already interest in a concert next year. The monthly jam and regular weekly jams were mentioned.

 South Bay Area: Roger Siminoff was not present. Rick Cornish reported that Roger is still working on starting a monthly jam.

VII. Other Business:

- A. Lisa Gillim request: Lisa has requested two one-day festival tickets to be used in conjunction with a fundraiser for the Graniteville Volunteer Fire Department in Nevada County, California. Carl Pagter presented the request and distributed copies of Lisa's letter. Rick Cornish made a motion to contribute two one-day festival passes to this fundraising event. Don Denison seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Kathy Kirkpatrick will take care of responding by letter to Lisa.
- Mariposa Festival: Carl Pagter discussed the 30 day restriction clause which normally appears in the CBA contracts with bands. He said he would like to have the board waive this restriction in the case of two bands, Fox Family and Mountain Heart, which are scheduled to play at our festival and also at the Mariposa festival. George Martin made a motion to waive the 30 day restriction in order to allow Mountain Heart and Fox Family to play our festival and the Mariposa festival. Harold Crawford seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. It was reported that Keith McReynolds (Jesse McReynolds son) had passed away. Rick Cornish made a motion to send a contribution of \$200.00 in Keith's name to the McReynolds family. If there is no way to do this, a contribution in Keith's name

would be made to the International Bluegrass Music Museum (IBMM). Don Denison seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- D. J.D. Rhynes reported he had written a letter nominating Rose Maddox to the IBMA Hall of Honor. He said he is actively supporting this nomination and requested a letter from the CBA supporting it. J.D. Rhynes made a motion that the CBA write a letter to the IBMA Board of Directors supporting the nomination of Rose Maddox into the Hall of Honor. George Martin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- E. J.D. Rhynes let the board know that Country Ham has been chosen to play on the Roots and Branches stage at the IBMA convention and trade show in October.
- F. J.D. Rhynes let the board know that he had been asked by Ron Thomason to write liner notes for his latest CD.
- G. George Martin asked Suzanne Denison if we have taken steps to copyright the Bluegrass Breakdown. Carl Pagter said he feels we should. Suzanne will look into the copyright laws.
- H. George Martin said he had gotten permission to have a Butch Waller song musically transcribed and printed in the Bluegrass Breakdown. George Martin made a motion to approve the cost of the transcription. J.D. Rhynes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business:

The date, time and place of the March board meeting has been set for Sunday, March 12, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of John Duncan in Sacramento, CA. The meeting was adjourned at

Respectfully submitted, Sue Van Enger CBA Secretary

Oregon and California Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festivals to offer a myriad of talented performers

Just in time to start marking your 2000 calendar and making plans to attend festivals, Dale Lawrence Productions has announced the line-ups for his August and September Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festivals.

"The new Millennium marks some changes and celebrations for the 'Late Summer Festivals,' according to Dale Lawrence. "We have decided to lose the Late Summer handle, mostly because it is too self-limiting; and secondly because we have a lot more entertainment planned for you at both festivals."

Dale Lawrence Productions is proud to announce the line-up to date for the California Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival includes Bluegrass music from some of the industry's best, including: IIIrd Tyme Out, the Dry Branch Fire Squad, the U.S. Navy Band Country Current, the Reno Brothers, the Lynn Morris Band, Front Range, the Grasshoppers, the Sawtooth Mountain Boys, Great Northern Planes, Within

Tradition, Blade Runners, Lone Prairie, Lost Highway, and more.

In addition, Cowboy stars for the California festival include the Sons of the San Joaquin, Waddie Mitchell, Steve Blanchard and more, plus Country Music legend, Merle Haggard and the Strangers will be performing on Thursday night only. The California Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival will be held at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, California on September 21 - 24, 2000.

To date, the Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival includes such Bluegrass headliners as Larry Cordle and Lonesome Standard Time, Blue Highway, Bluegrass Etc., Lost Highway, the Grasshoppers, Within Tradition, Sam Hill, Great Northern Planes, Rainey Pass, Misty River, No Strings Attached, Lonesome Ridge and the Severin Sisters. Cowboy stars include: Riders in the Sky, Don Edwards and Steve Blanchard, with more to be announced. The Oregon Fes-

tival will be held at the Hood River Fairgrounds in Odell, Oregon, August 17 - 20, 2000.

In addition to the entertainment on stage, both events will include a Youth Music Camp, Youth on Stage, a Bluegrass Band Competition, Wine Tasting, a craft fair, contests for the best decorated RV or campsite, a band scramble, kid's activities, workshops with the performers, an authentic Cowboy Trail Camp with campfire performances by the Sons of the San Joaquin, Waddie Mitchell and others, great food and barbecues, as well as raffles and more.

Camping is available on the festival sites and is included in all 2, 3 and 4 day passes only. Single day tickets will also be sold.

Advance discount tickets are now available. For information, write to Dale Lawrence Productions, 1923 NE 134th, Portland, OR 97230; call 503-408-7692 or 503-261-9887; or check out their website at: www.GreatMusic Festivals.com.

New items in the CBA Mercantile just in time for the Festival Season!

Embroidered Denim Jackets

Heavy denim, waist length jackets with two large, deep pockets inside; two top buttoned pockets and two side pockets on the outside. Beautiful CBA color logo embroidered on back with silver lettering for our 25th Anniversary. You can also have your name embroidered on the front for an additional \$5.

Available in sizes M - XXXXL

\$95 each
Plus \$6 shipping & handling



Also new in stock are: SWEAT SHIRTS in Black and Forest Green

Good looking cotton/poly sweatshirts to keep you warm for outdoor picking parties. CBA logo is silkscreened on the back in beautiful, living color. You'll want several of them for your friends and family. Available in sizes L, XL & XXL

\$25 each Plus \$6 shipping & handling

To order these items or other CBA logo merchandise, see the order blank on page 32.

For further information, call Neale or Irene Evans at 916-427-1214.

25th Annual CBA Festival Tentative Band Performance Schedule

Thursday, J	une 15th	2:25 - 3:10 p.m.	Sand Mountain	4:55 - 5:50 p.m.	Dinner &	11:45 - 12:40 p.m.	
9:55 - 10:40 a.m.	Country Ham		Boys		Workshops		& Workshops
10:50 - 11:35 a.m.	Lost Highway	3:20 - 4:05 p.m.	Fox Family	5:50 - 6:25 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass	12:50 - 1:35 p.m.	Rarely Herd
11:45 a.m 12:30 p	.m. Sand	4:15 - 4:45 p.m.	Cloggers	6:35 - 7:20 p.m.	Reno Brothers	1:45 - 2:30 p.m.	Bluegrass Patriots
	Mountain Boys		on Children's Stage	7:30 - 8:15 p.m.	Rarely Herd	2:40 - 3:25 p.m.	Doyle Lawson
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break	4:05 - 5:50 p.m.	Dinner and	8:25 - 9:10 p.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out		& Quicksilver
	and Workshops		Workshops	9:20 - 10:05 p.m.	Country Current	3:35 - 4:20 p.m.	California
1:30 - 2:15 p.m.	Lost and Found	5:50 - 6:20 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass	10:15 - 11 p.m.	Doyle Lawson		(Reunion)
2:25 - 3:10 p.m.	James King Band	6:30 - 7:15 p.m.	Lost Highway		& Quicksilver	4:30 - 5:15 p.m.	Reno Brothers
3:20 - 4:05 p.m.	Country Ham	7:25 - 8:10 p.m.	Mountain Heart			5:25 - 6:10 p.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out
4:05 - 6 p.m	Dinner and	8:20 - 9:05 p.m.	James King Band	Sunday,	June 18th	6:20 - 7:05 p.m.	Country Current
	Workshops	9:15 - 10:00 p.m.	Lost and Found	9 to 10:50 a.m.	Gospel Show		
6:00 - 6:45 p.m.	Fox Family	10:10 - 11 p.m.	J.D. Crowe	11 - 11:45 a.m.	IIIrd Tyme Out		
6:55 - 7:40 p.m.	Lost and Found		and the New South				
7:50 - 8:35 p.m.	Sand Mountain						
Target To State of the Land	Boys	Saturday	y, June 17th				n
8:45 - 9:30 p.m.	J.D. Crowe	8:50 - 9:35 a.m.	Bluegrass Patriots	Adver	tise in CBA	Souvenir	Program

Friday June 16th

9:40 - 10:25 p.m. James King Band

and the New South

Tiluay, Jun	C TOTH
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	Lost Highway
9:55 - 10:40 a.m.	Fox Family
10:50 - 11:35 a.m.	Country Ham
11:45 a.m 12:30 p.	m. Mountain
	Heart
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	and Workshops
1:30 - 2:15 p.m.	J.D. Crowe &
	the New South

Saturday, J	une 17th
9.35 a.m.	Bluegrass

8:50 - 9:35 a.m.	Bluegrass Patriots
9:45 - 10:30 a.m.	California
	(Reunion)
10:40 - 11:25 a.m.	Rarely Herd
11:35 - 12:20 p.m	Reno Brothers
12:20 - 1:25 p.m.	Lunch Break
A WHALL	& Workshops
1:25 - 2:10 p.m.	Country Current
12:20 - 3:05 p.m.	Doyle Lawson
	& Quicksilver
3:15 - 4 p.m. (California (Reunion)
410 - 4:55 p.m.	Mountain Hear
4:10 - 4:40 p.m.	Cloggers
THE STATE OF	on Children's Stage

Advertise in CBA Souvenir Program

There is still time to advertise your music-related business in the Sourvenir Program for the California Bluegrass Association's Silver Anniversary, 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival.

The program will reach CBA members, music stores, record companies, agents and artists, as well as over 5,000 festival attendees - all with an interest in Bluegrass, old-time and gospel music.

Reserve our space by contacting Suzanne Denison, editor, Bluegrass Breakdown by mail: P.O. Box 9, Wilseyville, CA 95257; phone 209-293-1559; FAX 209-293-1220; or e-mail: cbawpn@volcano.net.

Camera ready copy deadline is May 5, 2000. Advertising rates are printed on page 2 of this issue.

CBA Festival

Continued from page 1 "newacoustic" music had pushed instrumental prowess to the forefront, Doyle brought harmony singing back into the bluegrass spotlight. The Doyle Laswon & Quicksilver sound - which emphasizes the smooth, intricate, astonishingly perfect vocal harmonies, innovative song arrangements, and stunning instrumental work - has been a model for countless progressive bluegrass bands of the 1980s and 90s.

Gospel Quartet singing is an integral part of the Quicksilver repertoire, and Doyle is a master at discovering and revitalizing obscure material from old hymn books and early records. From "Rock My Soul", released in 1981 to Doyle's most recent recording, "Winding Through Life", the band's recordings have garnered Dove and Grammy nominations and awards. The newest project, released in 1999, received a Grammy nomination, and "Nothing Can Touch Me", written by Barry Scott is among the finalists for a 2000 Dove award.

The current Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver roster includes Doyle Lawson on mandolin, singing lead and tenor vocals; Dale

Perry on banjo and bass vocals; Barry Scott sings lead and tenor and plays guitar; Jamie Dailey plays bass and sings baritone and lead vocals; and Doug Bartlett

Dovle Lawson & Quicksilver and Country Ham, are part of the stellar line-up for the CBA's 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival which includes: IIIrd Tyme Out, Country Current (U.S. Navy Band), J.D. Crowe and the New South, the Fox Family, California (reunion), Lost and Found, James King, Sand Mountain, Bluegrass Patriots, Lost Highway, Mountain Heart, Rarely Herd, the Reno Brothers, the Corn Masher Dancers and Kids on Bluegrass.

Dates for the 2000 festival are June 15-18 on the beautiful Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California. Early camping will open on Monday, June 12 for a fee of \$15 per night per unit. A limited number of electrical and water hook-ups are available on a first-come, firstserved basis. There is a designated "tents" only camping area, as well as accommodations for handicapped campers with advance reservations.

Camping is included in all three and four day ticket prices during the festival Thursday, June 15 to Sunday, June 18.

To order tickets for the CBA's Silver Anniversary, 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival by mail, please see the ticket order form and ad on the facing page. Credit card ticket orders can be made on the Internet at www.ticketweb.com. Tickets are also on sale at all BASS ticket outlets, the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce, the 5th String Music Store in Berkeley, and the 5th String Music Store in Sacramento. No member discounts offered or given except for mail order tickets from the CBA.

For further information about mail order tickets, please call David Runge at 707-762-8735. For TicketWeb information, call 510-704-8735

Campers who need handicapped accommodations should call Yvonne Gray at 209-951-



DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER -- Doyle Laswon, Barry Scott, Jamie Dailey, Dale Perry and Doug Bartlett.



Presents its 25th Annual

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Father's Day Weekend

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

June 15, 16, 17 & 18, 2000

at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

* An All-Star Line-up Featuring *

- * IIIrd Tyme Out * Bluegrass Patriots * California (Reunion) *
 - * Country Ham * Country Current (U.S. Navy Band) *
 - * J.D. Crowe & the New South *
 - * the Fox Family * James King Band *
 - * Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver * Lost and Found *
 - * Lost Highway * Mountain Heart * Rarely Herd *
 - * Reno Brothers * Sand Mountain * Kids On Bluegrass *

PLUS - Workshops, 4- day Children's Program, on site Camping, and Jamming all under the beautiful pine trees - 4 Full Days of Family Fun!

						-
 	~	Advance	Ticket	Order	Form	~

CBA Member AdvanceTicket 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 5, 2000. No Discounts available at the gate.

CBA Member Tickets (3/1/00 - 6/5/00)
4-Day Adult \$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 Adult
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
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Friday \$20
Saturday \$25
Sunday
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EARLY CAMPING OPENS MONDAY, JUNE 12. CAMPING 6/12 TO 6/14

CAMPING INCLUDED IN ALL 3 AND 4 DAY FESTIVAL TICKETS.

> \$15 PER NIGHT PER UNIT (TENTS & RVs)

DESIGNATED TENT ONLY CAMPING AREA RULE WILL BE **ENFORCED 6/12/00.**

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4-Day Senior @\$55	Friday Only @ \$20
4-Day Teen @\$35	Saturday Only @\$25
3-Day Adult (Th-F-Sat) @\$50 3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @\$45	Sunday Only @\$15
3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @\$45	CBA Member No
3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) @\$30 3-Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) @\$30	Date of Order
3-bay reen (r-sat-sun) @\$30	Total Enclosed
Non-Member Tickets	Mail ticket order form, a SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPE
4-Day Adult @\$65	LEGAL-SIZED ENVELOPE, and check or money orde
4-Day Teen @\$40	payable to the California Bluegrass Association (CBA
3-Day Adult (Th-F-Sat) @\$55	to:
3-Day Adult (F-Sat-Sun) @\$50 3-Day Teen (Th-F-Sat) @\$35	CBA Festival Advance Tickets
3 Day Teen (F-Sat-Sun) @\$35	David Runge 215 Grant Avenue
	Petaluma, CA 94952
Name —	Tetatuma, CA 94932
Address	For further information
City	about tickets, call:
StateZip	(707) 762-8735
Phone	

Please send me the following tickets to the CBA's 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass

Persons who need special camping arrangements due to a handicapping condition are asked to call Yvonne Gray at 209-

951-3129 to make advance reservations.

CONCERT REVIEW

Ricky Skaggs tweaks those ancient tones

Kentucky Thunder's powerful night at San Francisco's Last Day Saloon

By George Martin

Ricky Skaggs picked up a Grammy award for best bluegrass album February 23, and celebrated a couple days later with two (you should pardon the expression) thundering shows at San Francisco's Last Day Saloon.

Skaggs' time laboring in the commercial country music world has had an effect on his bluegrass sound, no doubt. This is not to say that Skaggs is not a killer mandolin pickerand magnificent singer, but his concerts now have an enhanced quality that stretches the boundaries of the "ancient tones" he likes to talk about

For instance, big-time country music stars go to great lengths to re-create on stage as far as possible the sound of their recordings. Thus you'll often notice a "utility infielder" musician on stage who plays a mandolin fill in one song, a bit of TIFKAD (the instrument formerly known as Dobro) on another, maybe strum an autoharp at another point, just to give the listener that nearly subconscious impression that this is exactly the performance that is on the CD player in his car.

In Skaggs' case, at one point Jim Mills puts down his banjo and picks up a 1920s Regal slide guitar (non-resophonic) and plays a little backup on "Walls of Time." As I write this, with my computer's CD player going and my earphones on, I am not surprised at all to hear on that track the same slide guitar sound in my ears. (If Skaggs was still playing stadiums, however, one presumes he'd have a guy with a hammer and spike to duplicate the mining sound that winds up "Coal Minin' Man.")

Ricky brought an eight-piece band to the Last Day Saloon. Bobby Hicks was joined on fiddle by a young phenom (where do these kids come from?) named Luke Bulla. They played twin fiddles and sometimes took turns backing the singer while the other retreated into the shadows.

There were no less than three guitar players on stage. Clay Hess, another of these young

superpickers, every bit as fast as the departed Bryan Sutton, although perhaps less accurate and not quite as musically inventive, played a Collings flat-top. Paul Brewster, a long-time Osborne Brothers sideman, played rhythm on another Collings dreadnought and sang tenor to Skaggs. Darrin Vincent, Rhonda's brother, sang baritone and played something you don't see in bluegrass bands very often (another of Skaggs' enhancements), a Collings archtop guitar, on which he doubled the mandolin chop, and contributed the Lester Flatt G-runs on "Uncle Pen." One wonders if Skaggs' band has some kind of endorsement deal with the Texas guitar company.

Mark Fain played bass, including a nice fast duet riff with Skaggs' mandolin on one part of "Boston Boy."

The band kicked off with the Stanley Brothers' traditional "Pig in a Pen," then ripped out a short but intense "Fire on the Mountain" with Hicks and Bulla playing twin fiddles. They followed with Carter Stanley's "Lonesome Night," with a soulful trio on the choruses.

Skaggs next dipped into the Flatt and Scruggs songbag for "Somehow Tonight" and followed that with a hyperdrive version of "Wheelhoss," both tunes that are on the "Bluegrass Rules" CD that marked his return to acoustic music in 1997.

As the band continued to explore the classic bluegrass repertoire, "Rough and Rocky," "Uncle Pen," "Bound to Ride," "Rank Stranger," and such, I thought of how unusual it was that Skaggs was performing the same sort of songs that your typical just-starting-out young bluegrass band would be playing in a small neighborhood bar or pizza

How many times have you read a review in Bluegrass Unlimited of a band's first CD where the reviewer tries to say, as politely as possible, that another version of "Pig in a Pen" isn't really necessary from a young, unknown band. It is the goal of most such groups to develop original material, put it on a record and get some notice.

But Skaggs, with his own star power, pure vocals and hot mandolin chops, plus the amazing musicians in Kentucky Thunder, doesn't have that problem. I suspect that some of the fans he attracts are from his country star days and don't know all that much about where these songs come from. Plus, the music Skaggs is doing was recorded many years ago, and although you can't fault any of the bluegrass pioneers for the artistry or passion of their music, there is something to be said for modern recording techniques where you feel like you are right in the middle of the band, with the banjo in one ear and the mandolin in the other.

Ricky also is nothing if not a talented arranger, having managed once upon a time to tart up "Uncle Pen" with enough chicken picking, drums and such to get Bill Monroe's classic bluegrass anthem to the No. 1 spot on the commercial country hit parade. His sets and songs are nicely paced, with stops and starts, the occasional mandolin-banjo or mandolin-bass duet, single or twin fiddles and sometimes no fiddles at all. And when the band is turned loose on a hot instrumental, the result is blistering speed, wild inventiveness.

For a change of pace, Brewster sang "Listening to the Rain," the old Osborne Brothers song (written, I believe by Damon Black) that is being done so well these days by Becky Schlegel and True Blue out of Minnesota. Brewster sang a high lead, Bobby Osborne-style, with Skaggs' and Vincent's harmonies stacked below him. And fiddler Bobby Hicks did the title song from his album, "Fiddlepatch," which is a country blues disguised most of the way through with jazzy chords (Oooh, looky, a bluegrass guitar picker playing 9ths!).

As the concert concluded and the crowd cheered and clapped for an encore, someone yelled out, "I Ain't Broke, But I'm

Badly Bent!" A smile crossed Ricky's face and he said, "We

Then Ricky sang "Roll in My Sweet Baby's Arms," and finished up with a wickedly fast "Boston Boy," rather more quickly paced, I thought, than Uncle Pen Vandiver used to play it while riding muleback with his nephew to a house dance in the green hills around Rosine, Ky.

could do a little bit of that." It obviously wasn't on the set list but the band produced a creditable version on the spot - jamming in a controlled environment by trained professionals. You can try this at home, kids, but it probably won't sound as good.

Harmonica Korner...

Especially for beginners, grandparents, kids, anyone

by Howard Polley

Harmonica — the People's Instrument

The facts are in! It has been proven, unscientifically of course, you can actually live without the harmonica; but do you want to? Surely a couple of million people can't be wrong. Well not totally wrong anyway.

In recent issues of this column we've mentioned the names of legendary harp players - past and present. These are recording artists, commercial studio players, movie and TV soundtrack performers and many more. But wait a minute, what about the man on the street? The person who is not a musician by occupation. In fact, this individual may be in a field of endeavor far removed from the world of harmonica playing. Oh yes, there are a bunch of these harp players too. (The following information is based on the Hohner Company's booklet entitled "Easy Reeding", published to commemorate over 100 years in the marking of harmonicas).

The first instrument to be played in outer space was the harmonica. Astronaut Wally Schirra "smuggled" one aboard his Gemini VI spacecraft and played "Jingle Bells" to the delight of the entire world, who saw the virtuoso performance on TV via satellite.

Former President Ronald

Reagan was found playing the harmonica while recuperating from his near-tragic gunshot

At the Lincoln-Douglas debates, fiery Stephen Douglas arrived with a brass band, while Honest Abe had only his trusty harmonica. "Mr. Douglas needs a brass band," Lincoln was credited with saying, "but the harmonica will do for me!"

Frank James, Jesse's older brother, used to carry a harmonica in his pocket, which, according to legend, deflected a bullet and saved his life, allowing him to live into the twentieth century. Lawman Wyatt Earpand desperado William Bonney, alias Billy the Kid, both played the harmonica.

Robert Manley sailed the storm-swept Atlantic in his tiny boat "Tinkerbelle" in 1965. His only companion on the lonely voyage was his harmonica.

Well, there you have it, more harmonica players all over the place. Thanks again for stopping by HK this month. If you're interested in additional information from Hohner's booklet, send me a SASE business size, and I'll send you a free copy. Keep practicing. Always remember where you keep your harmonica. It could help you out of a tough jam someday!

Old-time Fiddling at County Fair Mall

by Suzanne Denison

Old-time fiddlers and their friends entertained shoppers and browsers during the weekend of February 24-26, 2000 at the County in Woodland, CA. This was the 10th Anniversary celebration of the event hosted by Califonria State Old Time Fiddler's Association #5, and organized by Gloria Bremer.

Luckily for us, CBA's official photographer, Howard Gold was on hand Saturday to get some great candid shots of the musicians. Unfortunnately, however,

he didn't get the performer's names, and I don't know all of

If you (or a friend) are pictured on this page, please let me know, and I will be happy to let our readers know who you are in the next issue.

It looks like everyone is having a great time at this year's February event, and Gloria has told me that they plan to hold another Old Time Fiddling event at the mall this fall. Watch for details in later issues.



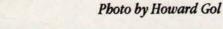
Melva Winchell of Stockton strums her guitar while an unkown Dobro player takes a break. Photo by Howard Gold

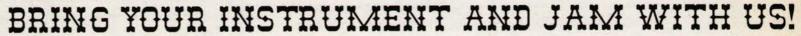


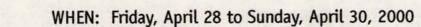
Jack Kuykendahl of Manteca jams with an unidentified guitar player at the County Fair Mall.

Mystery pickers -- This quartet (all unknown to your editor), entertain the crowd with a Bluegrass

Photo by Howard Gold







WHERE: The Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA WHAT: CBA's annual Spring Campout and Jammer's Weekend

COST: Camping fees are the only cost -- \$15 per night per RV and \$7 per night for tents. LISTENERS WELCOME! Bring your friends and family and introduce them to the CBA family of

wonderful acoustic music and friendship.

For more information, call Bob Crowder at 530-671-6735.

MUSIC MATTERS

Copyright the Silences?

by Elena Corey

Author! Author! Satisfied viewers of a theatrical demand. "Who wrote that beautiful song?" ask appreciative listeners regarding a great composition. Despite the fact that we all work with the same 12 half-steps, the many arrangements of those notes continue to delight and amaze us.

Premiere guitarist John McLaughlin says, "I want to be a better and better guitar player. I want to articulate, able to utilize space better, to playsilence more profoundly." Instructors of improvisation tell students regularly to develop a rhythmic personality for a melodic riff, to not play eight thousand sixteenth notes consecutively. As musicians advance, they learn to leave some spaces for the music to breathe-for the swing to return for another push. And so the phrasing becomes conversational, call and response like even, as the instrumentalist presents a dialogue. This musical dialogue can vary, just as the lyric of a piece would, to suggest various moods when played with differences of expression.

We all want to be able to hear the sounds of silence and to let the music relax enough to provide its own rhythms. Beginning and intermediate instrumentalists may tend to overplay out of nervousness and fear that they're over their heads and simply must keep playing at breakneckspeed until they're through. Yes, that's true. But the one time that your own improvisational lick can be perceived to be musical, on its own, is as memorable as the instant you realize that you really can swim. Such an instant gets to be treasured forever.

Among other reasons to avoid plagiarism in both musical composition and lyric creation stands the great high you get to feel when you perceive that, although you may have narrowly avoided playing something you already knew, the music you have managed to create is actually truly original. "Highly derivative" and "reminiscent of her/his earlier masterpieces" are critics' words that instrumental improvisers, composers / song-writers dread hearing. Such commentary signals that, to at least others' ears, one's creativity and uniqueness

aren't apparent any longer.

But every so often a new country music hit, e.g. "Please Don't Put Me in Your eX-File," just happens to be identical in melody to a hit of earlier decades, "Act Naturally", (even the phrasing is duplicated from the earlier lines, e.g. "They're gonna put me in the movies.") The musicians who are asked to trot out a fine arrangement for the "new" hit may not be able to get excited, in their disappointment. Somebody else already showed the way to provide memorable riffs for that tune. The challenge is to tune out the earlier rendition of the tune and to come up with something brand new, despite the flagrant plagiarism's raining on one's creativity pa-

Lou Stein, a pianist of great improvisational fame, showed millions of prosaic musicians that even such basic melodies as "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" could offer unlimited possibilities for individualized interpretations. He dropped delightful passing chords and altered chords into basic compositions, charming our ears with every measure. Similarly, stylists such as Gerald Martin have taken such traditional folk tunes as "Buffalo Gals, Won't You Come Out Tonight?" and added strong ascending steps to the bass line, in each phrase, providing encouragement to our improvisational

People who write music for films, cinematic composers like Jerry Goldsmith, often deliberately skirt the aural-memory edges of well known songs, yet manage to avoid being sued for plagiarism. Their task, as they tell about it, is primarily mood setting. They emphasize synchronizing repeated sounds, even one four to six note riff, to build tension or remind hearers of a set-Silence also can play a major role in their task. For instance, in the movie Coma, directed by Michael Crichton, Mr. Goldsmith's ultimate score began with an entire fifteen minutes without music, to symbolize the lack of consciousness of the protagonist. Then when the music entered, a stark contrast was audible.

Writing music for a movie may be similar to collaborative writing, where one person is a lyricist and the other the composer. Matching the mood of the music to the "plot" of the lyrics is one of the components of prosidy, which is indispensable to song-writing. Prosidy is often given as the reason some well known tunes have grown new sets of lyrics, losing their original ones. I'm not talking about "working" lyrics, e.g. "Scrambled eggs" to McCartney's "Yesterday," but referring to lyrics which were offered to the world, but later superseded by better ones. An example of this could be, "Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms" which was first published in London in 1775, with one set of lyrics, but which was rescued from obscurity by the Irish Poet Thomas Moore, who wrote a second set of lyrics around 1807. Those lyrics have survived to this day. "Beautiful Brown Eyes" is another example of a song whose parentage is shrouded with controversy, and which shows differing lyrics over a period of some 40 years, and now offers several verses of lyrics which appear in several other songs.

A surviving standard which is much appreciated by bluegrass musicians and audiences is, "When You and I Were Young, Maggie." The lyric of the song was written by a Canadian school teacher, George Johnson, who offered it, as a courting poem to his sweetheart, Maggie Clark. Composer James A. Butterfield was so moved by the beautiful verse that he set the poem to music, and copyrighted the total



in 1866. Incidentally, George and Maggie got married and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where they lived until Maggie died. From then on, the silences embedded in the interstices of the music were even more significant to George and all the subsequent listeners.

May your songwriting and instrumental improvisational offerings to the world encompass memorable arrangements of pearly tones as well as significant silences which, cumulatively testify to the greatness of your music.

Happy picking to you.

Elena

RECORDING REVIEWS

The David Thom Band Plays Bluegrass

The David Thom Band

Swollen Records

Songs: Katy Daley, Calendars, On & On, Berkeley Bounce, Homestead On The Farm, Jordan, Separate Cars, If I lose, Never See My Home Again, The Bitterroot Lullaby, Goldrush, All My Life, Under Skies Like These, The Ross Valley Ramble, Over In The Glory Land, Dark Hollow

Personnel: David Thom—guitar and vocals; Doug Holloway fiddle; Paul Knight—bass and vocals; Jon Mask—mandolin and vocals; Jonathan Schiele—banjo and vocals

by Larry Carlin

Some things are a given—the sun rises in the east, taxes are due on the 15th of this month, festival season always passes much too quickly, and The David Thom Band Plays Bluegrass. Which, amazingly so, also happens to be the name of the new CD by The David Thom Band. When you have a fiddle, banjo, mandolin, doghouse bass, and

acoustic guitar in a band, it is a pretty safe bet that you aren't going to hear any rap, hip-hop, or funk music. Thankfully this is true here on this recording, as it ain't nuthin' but straight-ahead, good old-fashioned bluegrass—the way it was meant to be played.

The David Thom Band is based in Marin County, not (yet) exactly a hotbed for bluegrass music. Sure, bluegrass gods David Grisman and Peter Rowan live up there. And Dr. Elmo & Wild Blue have been playing in the county for about 10 years. Yet aside from these names there had been little else happening bluegrass-wise in Marin until the Thom boys started pickin'away a few years back. And now they are at the forefront of a bluegrass Renaissance that is slowly taking hold in the Bay Area. They play often at the Sweetwater as well as other clubs in Marin that normally do not feature bluegrass music. They are trailblazers in the truest sense of the word.

David Thom is the lead singer, guitar player, and front man for the band, as well as the main songwriter. He is also a darned-good flatpicker. Jonathan Schiele picks a mean 5string, sings the high harmonies, wrote two of the instrumentals here, and he sings lead on one song. Jon Mask plays the mandolin and sings baritone harmonies, while Paul Knight sings and plays the bass. Newest member to the group is fine fiddler Doug Holloway.

There is lots of good stuff on the new CD. Five of the songs are original, yet the strongest numbers are the bluegrass classics. The band pays tribute to some of the bluegrass greats here: there are two Bill Monroe songs - "Goldrush" and "On & On"; two Ralph Stanley tunes - "Katy Daley" and "If I Lose"; "Homestead On The Farm" is by A.P. Carter; "Never See My Home Again" is by Dillard and Jayne; and there are the bluegrass standards "Over In Glory Land" and "Dark Hollow". There are three instrumentals, a couple of gospel songs, a waltz, and lots of darn good pickin' going on here. The David Thom Band Plays Bluegrass is a well-rounded debut bluegrass recording by one of the Bay Area's finest up and coming bluegrass bands.

If you missed their CD release show at the Freight and Salvage in February you can go see the band on Tuesday, April

RECORDING REVIEWS

18th, in Mill Valley on the monthly Bluegrass Gold show when they will be releasing as many CDs as possible at the Sweetwater, Marin's venerable nightclub. They will also be sharing the stage with Batteries Not Included at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church on Saturday, April 29. More information on the band and the CD can be obtained at www.thedtb.com.

Buy a few dozen of these CDs before the 15th and use them as a tax deduction. You'll be helping the band pay their own taxes and you'll be spreading the word that The David Thom Band Plays Bluegrass.



Devolver The Waybacks

Fiddling Cricket Music 919 Michigan Avenue San Jose, CA 95125

Songs: Lickkus Interruptus, Compadres In The Old Sierra Madre, Gone Wayback, Been Around, Scrapple From The Apple, The Last Steam Engine Train, IWan'na BeLike You (The Monkey Song), McHattie's Waltz, The Witch Of Westmereland, INPT, Cluck Old Hen

Personnel: Wayne Jacques — fiddle, mandolin, vocals; Stevie Coyle — rhythm, fingerstyle guitar, vocals: James Nash — lead guitar, mandolin, vocals; Chris Kee —string bass, electric bass, vocals; Peter Magee Tucker — drums, vocals

by Larry Carlin

"Bluegrass Rules!" so the slogan goes. And sometimes the bluegrass rules are broken. Peter Wernick certainly has stretched the boundaries of the genre on the banjo, as have Alison Brown and Bela Fleck. Druha Trava electrifies their acoustic instruments and they use drums, and David Grisman does his "dawg" music. Is any of this bluegrass? This is debatable. Do these acts get to play bluegrass festivals? Indeed they do. And so do The Waybacks, a Bay Areabased band that has created a bit

of a buzz with their new CD titled "Devolver".

The Waybacks are hard to pigeonhole. They play acoustic guitars, fiddles, mandolins, and string bass. Yet they also have a percussionist. If they had a banjo in the band they would probably be billed as a bluegrass band, but this album was recorded in a "banjo free zone." They play what they call "acoustic mayhem," which means they are all over the map style-wise yet the hot pickin' makes it sound sort of bluegrassy most of the time. A more appropriate, descriptive term might be "crabgrass," as some traditional bluegrass fans are going to be crabby when they don't hear any Bill Monroe songs on this recording.

There are a couple of surprises on *Devolver*, the first and foremost being the revelation that the band member heretofore known as "Chojo" Jacques is

Continued on Page A-18

Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Camps Flatpicking Camp ~ June 18-25, 2000 Mandolin Camp ~ June 14-18, 2000 Banjo Camp ~ June 14-18, 2000

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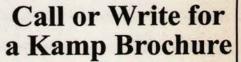


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RECORDING REVIEWS

Continued from Page A-17 really named "Wayne." But anyone who has seen The Waybacks will not be surprised at how good this recording is. This version of the band has been together for less than a year, and most of the members are veterans of other notable Bay Area bands.

There is a diverse mix of material on Devolver, and the musicianship is first rate. A baker's dozen worth of songs are on the CD, including six instrumental tunes that showcase the band's pickin' prowess. The first song, "Lickkus Interruptus", is a red-hot instrumental composed by fiddler/mandolinist Jacques, and it sets the tone for all of the songs that follow. Two other of the unsung songs were written by him, one is a be-bop tune by Charlie Parker, one is a beautiful arrangement of the Kenny Baker song "McHattie's Waltz" (featuring dual fiddles by Chojo and his "nice twin" Wayne), and the band fulfills the bluegrass requirement of one-train-song-per-recording with their version of John Fahey's "The Last Steam Engine Train." Lead singer Stevie Coyle - formerly of the popular Bay Area duo The Frontmen - sings the bouncy cowboy song "Compradres In The Old Sierra Madre " (which comes from the band Riders in the Sky), the Celticflavored "The Witch Of The Westmereland," and the humorous "I Wan'na Be Like You," a rhumba from Disney's The Jungle Book. Young guitarist James Nash not only is an incredible player, he also has a fine voice, singing a song he wrote called "Been Around". And Chojo/ Wayne sings a funky version of the traditional song "Cluck Old Hen," the song being done like you've never heard it done before.

The band is doing some CD release shows around the bay in March, and the CD is also available by going to http://www.waybacks.com. Check out their schedule at the site also.

The IBMA (International Banjo Musicians Association) has threatened to boycott performances by this band for contributing to the devolution of bluegrass. When it comes to breaking the unwritten rules of bluegrass and creating acoustic mayhem, The Waybacks are guilty as charged. Yet once you hear it you will get a charge out of Devolver.



Wanderlust Chris Brashear

CCCD 0171 P.O. Box 3161 Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: Mason's Lament, Unwanted Love, Lost Soldier Son, Newport, Today's The Darkest Day, Little Home In Tennessee, When Day Is Done, Wanderlust, The Happiest Days Of All, Put My Little Shoes Away, Catch The Baker, Just Wondering Why, Kansas City Rag.

Personnel: Chris Brashear, lead vocal, guitar, fiddle; Jody Stecher, mandolin, fiddle, guitar, lead & tenor vocal; Peter McLaughlin, baritone &bass vocal; John Averill, baritone vocal; Laurie Lewis, bass, tenor vocal; Ed Neff, fiddle; Bob Black, banjo

By Ken Reynolds

Just got this CD from Copper Creek Records featuring Chris Brashear. First off, I have to admit that I had never heard of Chris before receiving this recording. But reading the liner notes, I found out that he played with the bluegrass band Kentucky Rose from Oregon for six years.

But what I can tell you now after listening to him, this young man can really deliver a song. He has a very pleasant voice to listen to. He has some top musicians working with him on this project and the harmonies are as smooth as silk. The picking is about as good as it gets.

Chris is not only an excellent vocalist, he is also a talented composer. The original songs on this CD include: "Mason's Lament", "Lost Soldier Son", "When The Day Is Done", "Catch The Baker", and the title cut on this album, "Wanderlust," were all written by Brashear.

I especially enjoyed the soulful song "Lost Soldier Son", very moving lyrics, and " Just Wondering Why". All of the songs on this albumare good ones—good solid bluegrass.

You get the feel of the caliber of musicianship on this project when you listen to the instrumental cuts, "Newport", "When Day Is Done", "Catch The Baker" and "Kansas City Rag."

There is some very nice twin fiddle work on "Little Home In Tennessee" and "Put My Little Shoes Away", provided by Chris and Ed Neff.

If you want to listen to some great picking and singing, you definitely want to add this one to your collection. Wanderlust is a fine album that I really enjoyed and I believe you will to.

I think we will be hearing more from this talented man, at least I hope so.



Sounds Like Bluegrass To Me Tony Ellis

Copper Creek Records CCCD 0174 P.O. Box 3161 Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: My Long Journey Home, Will You Be Loving Another Man, Shortenin' Bread, Red Rocking Chair, Tragic Romance, The Old Cross Road, Sweet Sunny South, Turkey In The Straw, Nine Pound Hammer, Walking With You In My Dreams, My Cabin In Caroline, Cruel Willy, Poor Ellen Smith, There's A Man Going Around, IAm A Man Of Constant Sorrow, My Home's Across The Blueridge Mountains.

Personnel: Tony Ellis, banjo, vocals; Dudley Connell, guitar, vocals; Lester Woodie, fiddle, vocals; Tom Gray, bass, vocals

By Ken Reynolds

This is the latest release by former "Blue Grass Boy", Tony Ellis on the Copper Creek Records label. I guess the best way to describe this CD is to tell you that this is straight forward, classic bluegrass in the truest sense of the word. Ellis went to work for Mr. Monroe as a banjo player in January of 1960, a tenure that lasted two and a half years. During this time, he recorded twenty- five songs with the master.

Tony has some pretty good company with him on this project. All of the musicians have made the mark on the music. Fiddle player Lester Woodie worked with the Stanley Brothers. Tom Gray has worked with the likes of the Country Gentlemen, and a sixteen year stint with the Seldom Scene. The youngest member of this ensemble is none other than Dudley Connell of Johnson Mountain Boys fame. Dudley currently works with The Seldom Scene and Longview.

With this kind of experience, you just know the picking and vocals are going to be top notch. This album gives you sixteen songs for you listening pleasure and they're all old classic tunes.

With songs like "Will You Be Lovin' Another Man", "Nine Pound Hammer", "Poor Ellen Smith', to name a few, you can't go wrong with this one.

I thoroughly enjoyed listening to this album and I think that anyone who like good traditional bluegrass will feel the same way once they listen to it. This is one you'll surely want to add to your collection.



Aged To Perfection George Shuffler

Copper Creek Records CCCD 0172 P.O. Box 3161 Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: Nine Pound Hammer, Give The World A Sunny Smile, Love Please Come Home, Down In The Willow Garden, I Am A Pilgrim, My Homes Across The Blue Ridge Mountains, Freight Train, It's Mighty Dark To Travel, Miller's Cave, Sweet Sunny South, Little Joe, What A Friend We Have In Jesus.

Personnel: George Shuffler, guitar.

By Ken Reynolds

Just got this CD from Copper Creek Records featuring the legendary George Shuffler doing some mighty fine flat-picking. George began his professional career in the 1950s with the Stanley Brothers, playing bass for them. George is well known for his distinctive bass playing style, but he is also a very talented guitar player.

In the 1960s on a recording session with King records, he inaugurated his unique picking style that is now known as cross picking. He developed this style while working with Jim and Jesse McReynolds.

This album is an all instrumental project and includes a lot of old standards, as well as one of his originals, "Give The World A Sunny Smile", all picked in George's unique style.

As near as I can tell from the liner notes, this is a one man project but it has a rich full sound. The only instrumentation is the lead and a rhythm guitar. Some cuts sound like it's just one guitar. On some songs it was hard for me to tell.

If you are a flat-picker, or even a wannabe flat-picker, I think you will thoroughly enjoy this album. I know I did.

If you want to hear the old flat-top picked like is it supposed to be, pick up George Shuffler's "Aged To Perfection" CD.



City Bound Molasses Creek

Molasses Creek P.O. Box 596 Ocracoke NC 27960

Songs: Sbort; This Old Hammer, Glendale Train, Midnight Moonlight, You Are Fire, Blue Bayou, Stand and Deliver, Another Dance, Morning Sky, High On A Mountain, Still Love Friday, Ebo Walker, Give Yourself to Love.

Personnel: Molasses Creek is: Gary Mitchell - Guitar & vocals, Kitty Mitchell - Bass & vocals, Dave Tweedie - Fiddle & vocals, Stan Brown - Banjo, Louis Allen - Harmonica, vocals. Guests: Vassar Clements - Fiddle 3,8, Gene Wooten - Dobro, 2,4,9, David Grier -Guitar 2,5,13, Dennis Crouch - Bass, all, Beverly Botsford - Conga 5.

Page A-18 - Bluegrass Breakdown, April 2000

RECORDING REVIEWS

by Tom Sour

Molasses Creek is based on Ocracoke Island off the coast of North Carolina. According to the jacket, the island is 23 miles off the coast and three hours from the nearest Wal-Mart. This CD was recorded in Nashville, thus the title.

This is the third CD from this island dwelling North Carolina band. Molasses Creek bills themselves as an "acoustic folk-fusion band." I'd say that pretty well describes the CD. The vocals definitely have a folk bent to them. They come off best on the more folk oriented tunes. Especially Kate Wolf's "Give Yourself to Love," not as much to my liking on "Blue Bayou." Four of the twelve cuts are Molasses Creek originals. Other come from writers as diverse as Dan Foglelberg and Roy Orbison.

The picking is pretty good. From the core band, both Dave Tweedie and Stan Brown play their instruments well, fiddle and banjo respectively. Gary Mitchell plays solid rhythm guitar. The harmonica of Louis Allen was so low in the mix as to not be discernible. When you have ringers like Vassar Clements, Gene Wooten and David Grier, well they do raise things up a notch. The playing from these three was at its usual level of excellence.

It has always bothered me that a band will bring in a player to take the place of one of the regular members usual instrument, as they have done here on bass and mandolin. I would prefer to hear the same band I would hear at a live performance.

Overall this is a respectable effort. Those who enjoy folk oriented bluegrass will enjoy it

most. Their website, www. molassescreek.com, features sound bites and a newsletter.



Short Trip Home Joshua Bell and Edgar Meyer

Sony Classical SK 60864

Songs: Sbort Trip Home, Hang Hang, BT, In the Nick of Time, Concert Duo-the Prequal, BP, If I Knew, OK Alright, Death by Triple Fiddle, Movement 1, Concert Duo Movement 2, Concert Duo Movement 3, Concert Duo Movement 4.

Personnel: Joshua Bell, Violin, Edgar Meyer, Bass, Sam Bush Mandolin, Violin, Mike Marshall Guitar, Mandola, Violin.

by Tom Sours

Bluegrass people will be familiar with the work of Sam Bush and Mike Marshall. Many will recognize Edgar Meyer from his work with other folks within the Bluegrass genre. Joshua Bell is a new name to me. He is a classical violinist of some acclaim, so I'm told. He worked on the sound track for "The Red Violin," which I can recommend seeing. All are monster pickers.

All the tracks on "Short Trip Home" were composed by Edgar Meyer with the help of Mike Marshal on "Hang, Hang," and Sam Bush and Mike Marshal on "Death by Triple Fiddle." Joshua Bell contributed the violin solo on that one as well.

This CD is definitely on the classical side of acoustic music. Probably a good reason why it's on Sony's Classical label. There is some great instrumental work here, it's not Bluegrass, but it's pretty dang good. Sam Bush and

Mike Marshal add the rhythmic touches that really add excitement and an edge. The most Bluegrass sounding track is "BP." "Death by Triple Fiddle" is a pretty high energy fiddle tune with Joshua's classical treatment in for good measure.

I think those who came to Bluegrass through classical music will love this CD. (I wonder how many of those there are among us.) Those who are expanding their listening from traditional Bluegrass will like this as well. This would also be a CD to have as background music or mood music. If you only want to listen to straight ahead Bluegrass, pick up something else.

Where Can I Go to Hear/Play Some Music?

California Bluegrass Association or CBA Member Sponsored Jams

Alameda - Thin Man Strings,
 1506 Webster Streeet,
 Alameda, CA. Acoustic jam session every Friday from 6 to
 9 p.m. For information, call
 (510) 521-2613.

• Atascadero — Last Stage West, 15050 Morro Road, Highway 41, West of Atascadero. Acoustic music and jams. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Hosted by Buffalo Bob and Carmon Brittain. For information or to book a gig, call 805-461-1393. (Self-contained camping available on site.)

• Campbell — Bluegrass jam session every Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m. at Sam's BBQ, 1461 W. Campbell Avenue in Campbell, CA. Host band is Jake Quesenberry and friends. For information or directions, call 408-374-9676.

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

• Folsom—Monthlygospel jams, the 2nd Saturday of the month from 6-10 p.m. at the Landmark Baptist Church, 609 Figueroa St., in Folsom CA. For information or directions, call Bob Thomas at call Sacramento Area CBA Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.

• Larkspur — Bluegrass Jam session evey other Thursday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. at Java Cafe, 320 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA. Larry Carlin and Carltone Music hosts a There is no cover charge, and all acoustic bluegrass instruments are welcome (no percussion or electric instruments will be permitted). For information, call Java at (415) 927-1501.

Livermore - Bluegrass Jam Session 2nd Saturday of the month at Magoos Pizza, 7:00-10:00 pm, 364 South Livermore Ave. between 3rd & 4th street. Take the Livermore Ave Exit from I-



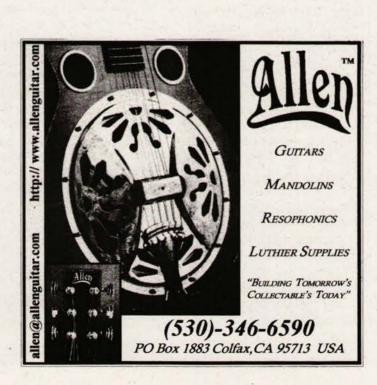
580. (buy a pizza and help pay the rent). For information, contact Jack E. Johnston 925-447-2406.

Livermore - Bluegrass Jam Session 4th Saturday of the month
 7:00 -? PM. Unitarian Church
 1893 Vasco Rd. Take Vasco
 Exit from I-580 head North on
 Continued on page A-20



Have you ordered your tickets yet?

Don't miss out on the member discounts on Advance Tickets for the CBA's 25th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley! (June 15-18, 2000). Send in your order today! There is a ticket order form on page A-13 for your convenience.





Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Some Music?

Continued from A-19

Vasco. For information, contact Bill O'neal 925-373-6280.

- Murphys Bluegrass and Acoustic jam, 2nd Wednesday every month, 6:30 - 9 p.m. at the Highway 4 Cafe, adjacent to the Texaco Station in Murphys, CA. For information, call 209-795-9425.
- Napa "Bluegrass and Fiddle Jam Session every Thursday nightfrom 7:30pm to 10:30pm in Napa. Call Jerry at (707) 226-3084."
- Orangevale—Weekly Bluegrass jams, every Wednesday from 7-10:30 p.m. at Daniel's Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. For further information, call Sacramento Area CBA Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.
- Redding Monthly Bluegrass jam being started in Redding. For information, call Jim Jackson at (530)242-0914.
- Sacramento Area Monthly Bluegrass jam sessions hosted by the Sacramento Area CBA. Locations and times vary. For further information, call Sacramento Area Activities Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.
- Sonoma Bluegrass jam session the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7 to 10:30 p.m. The music host will be Tom Sours. Murphy's Irish Pub is located at 464 First Street East in Sonoma, California. For further information, call 707-935-0660 or e-mail: murphy@vom.com.
- Williams VFW Hall, Corner of 9th & C Streets, 3rd Sunday 1-5p.m. Call Ed Baker, 530-824-5991 for details.
- Woodland Old Time Fiddling Jam at the County Fair Mall, 1264 East Gibson Road, Woodland, CA, first Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m. For more information, call Gloria Bremer at (530) 662-7908.

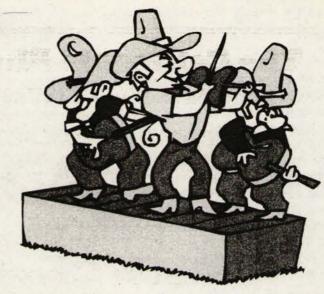
California Old-time Fiddlers Association

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

- Bellflower-The Southern California Old-Time Fiddlers hold jam sessions the second and fourth Sundays at the Masonic Lodge, 9813 E. Beach Street, Bellflower, CA. Contact Mel Durham (562) 867-9224 for more information.
- Castro Valley United Methodist Church at 19806 Wisteria Avenue in Castro Valley, California , 4th Sunday of every month from 1:30 to 5 p.m. For further information or directions, please call Suzanne Klein at (510) 527-2538.
- El Cajon Wells Park Center, 1153 Madison, El Cajon, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Omer Green at (619) 748-3493 for details.
- Fresno Senior Citizen's Village Community Room, 1917
 S. Chestnut Ave., every Saturday Dance, 7:30-11:00 p.m.
 Call Margarette Smith at (209) 924-2034 for details.
- Lakewood Masonic Hall,
 5918 Parkcrest St. in Lakewood, CA, 1st Sunday from 1-4 p.m. For information, call (562) 425-9123.
- Merced Colony Grange Hall, 2277 Child's Avenue. Merced.
 CA. 2nd Saturday 7-11 p.m.
 For information, call Omie Lancaster at (209) 291-4875.
- Oak View-Oak View Commuity Center, 18 Valley Rd., Oak View, CA. 2nd & 4th Sunday 12-4 p.m. For information, call Margaret Kirchner at (805) 646-3100.
- Oildale- Rasmussen Senior Citizen's Center, 115 E. Roberts Lane in Oildale, CA. 2nd and 4th Sunday, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Call Doyn Simpson (805) 833-2594 for details.
- Orangevale Orangevale Grange Hall, 5807 Walnut Avenue, 2nd Sunday, 1-5 p.m.
 For information, call Richard Hult, 209-745-2232, or Joyce Reed, 916-332-5395.
- Oroville Monday Club, 2385 Montgomery Blvd, 4th Sunday each month 1-4:30 p.m. For information, call Bob Hedrick at (530) 589-4844.
- Shasta New School, Red Bluff Drive, 1st Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Bob Burger at (916) 549-4524 for further information.
- Williams Veteran's Memorial Hall, 9th & C St., Williams, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5p.m. For information, call Ed Baker, 530-824-5991 for details.

Music Store & Restaurants With Regular Jams/Concerts

- Berkeley The Fifth String Music Store, 3051 Adeline, Berkeley, CA. Jam session every Thursday beginning at 8 p.m.
 For information or directions, call (510) 548-8282.
- Canoga Park Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor, 20246 Saticoy, Canoga Park. Instruments, repair and set-up, Cds, tapes and records, books and videos, accessories. Lessons on fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo and more. Jam session every other Saturday. Pick until you drop! Slow jam 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; open jam after that. For more information, call 818-700-8288.
- Laguna Niguel Acoustic Jam session 4th Friday of every month from 7-11 p.m. at Shade Tree Stringed Instruments, 28062-D Forbes Rd., Laguna Niguel, CA. For information, call 714-364-5270.
- Leucadia Jam Till You Drop, first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m. at Traditional Music, 1410 N. Hwy 101, Leucadia. For information, call (619) 942-1622.
- Mariposa Cousin Jack Pickin' Popcorn Music Jam at Cousin Jack's Store, 5026 Hwy 140, Mariposa, California. 1st Saturday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. For further information, please call (209) 966-6271.
- Mountain View Bluegrass Jam Session every Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Cuppa Joe's, 194 Castro Street in Mountain View, CA. For information, call 650-967-2294.
- Pasadena Traditional Music Store-Bluegrass and Old Time Jam the 1st Saturday of every month from 2-5 p.m. Regularly scheduled workshops offered. Location is 228 El Molino Ave., Pasadena, CA. For further information, call (818) 577-4888. (408) 377-2613.
- Sacramento The New 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra Blvd. At J Street in Sacramento. Bluegrass Jam every Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. New and used instruments, CDs, tapes, books, videos, lessons, workshops, repairs and more. For information, call (916) 452-8282.



• Sacramento — The Fox And Goose Public House, 1001 R street, Sacramento, California. The Fox and Gooose, long noted as a spot for good brew and live acoustic entertainment, has started to host a bluegrass jam session each month between 8:30 PM and 11:30 PM. Call Carlos at 916-806-2545 for further information.

Independent Clubs California

- Arroyo Grande The Central Coast Fiddlers hold jam sessions twice a month, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, 2nd Sunday of the month in Arroyo Grande, CA (between Santa Maria and San Luis Obispo) at the Portuguese Hall; 4th Sunday of the month at the Nipomo Senior Citizens' Center (between Arroyo Grande and Santa Maria). Call for details or directions: (805) 349-2274, days or (805) 929-6071, eves.
- Boulder Creek—Bluegrass Jam every second Sunday, 1-5 p.m. at Rainbow's End, 13266 Hwy.
 Boulder Creek. For information, call 831-338-0706.
- Berkeley Freight & Salvage,
 1111 Addison St., Berkeley.
 Occasional Bluegrass jams.
 Call (510) 548-1761 for details or to get on their mailing list.
- Ceres Central California Old-Time Fiddlers Assn., Walter White School, 1st and 3rd Fridays 6-10 p.m. Call Bill Whitfield at (209) 892-8685 for details.
- Coloma-at the Vinyard House, 530 Cold Springs Road, Coloma, CA. Bluegrass and Old time Music Jam every Thursday night at 8:00 p.m.
 For information call Todd Saunders at (916) 626-5615.
- Covina Open Mike Night 1st Saturday of each month at the Fret House. Call (818) 915-2023 for information.

- Fresno area Kings River Bluegrass Association now meets at Temperance Kutner School on Armstrong between Olive and Belmont a few miles east of Clovis Avenue. Jams on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 7 P.M. For more information, call Pat teNyenhuis, Pres. at 559-447-0918, Kent Kinney, V.P. at 559-787-3317. or Edee Matthews, Membership at 559-582-9155.
- Fresno Fresno Folklore Society, P.O. Box 4617, Fresno, CA 93744-4617. Monthly potluck and jam. For further information, call Nancy Waidtlow at (209) 224-1738 at (209) 431-3653 or Newsletter Editor Carl Johnson, phone (209) 229-8808
- Granada Hills Monthly bluegrass concerts produced by the Union Station Music Productions at the Granada Hills Masonic Hall, (818) 894-1643 for information.
- Granada Hills, Bluegrass Association of Southern California (BASC) night at Baker Square, 17921 Chatsworth Street (818) 366-7258; featured band plus open mike jamming on the third Tuesday of each month 7:30 10 p.m.
- •Hollywood Bluegrass Jam the 3rd Tuesday of every month 8 p.m. 12 a.m. at the Highland Grounds Coffee House, 742 N. Highland Avenue, Hollywood, California. \$2 cover charge/one drink minimum. For more information call Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor (818) 700-8288.
- Lompoc Acoustic jam session, 7-10 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Southside Coffee Company, 105 South H St., Lompoc, CA (Telephone (805) 737-3730.) For further information, contact Bill Carlsen (805) 736-8241, or email Charlie Bockius via e-mail at:

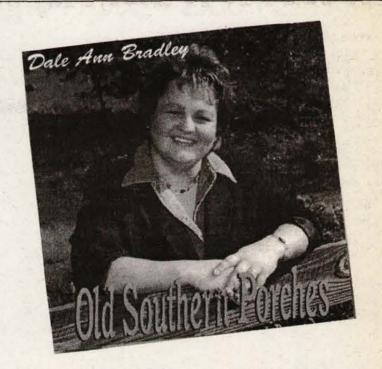
Continued on page A-22

The California Bluegrass Association Proudly Presents Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek in Two Regional Concerts

With the Modern Hicks
Friday, April 7, 2000
at 8 p.m.
at the Sebastopol
Community Center
390 Morris Street
Sebastopol, CA
Sponsored by the North Bay CBA

Tickets are \$12 for CBA members, \$15 for non-members. Children 12 and younger are FREE*.

*with paid adult admission



With the River City Boys
Saturday, April 8, 2000
at 7:30 p.m.
United Central
Methodist Church
5265 H Street - Sacramento, CA
Co-Sponsored by
The Sacramento Area CBA
and the 5th String Music Store

Tickets are \$12.50 for CBA members, \$15 for non-members. Children 12 and younger are FREE*.
*with paid adult admission

SEBASTOPOL CONCERT TICKET ORDER FORM Please send me the following tickets for the Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek concert in Sebastopol: ___ CBA member Adult Tickets @ \$12.00 each __ Non-member Adult tickets @ \$15.00 each CBA Membership No. _____ Name: Address: City: ___ State: __ Zip: ____ Phone: ___ Mail Ticket form, check payable to CBA and SASE to: Sebastopol Concert Tickets North Bay CBA c/o Mark Hogan 3980 Monika Ct. Sebastopol, CA 95472

For information, call Mark at 707-829-8012

Tickets also available at:

For information or directions, For information or directions.

People's Music

Sebastopol, CA

call 707-823-7664

122 N. Main Street

Last Music Store

739 Fourth St.

Santa Rosa, CA

call 707-525-1963

	RAMENTO CONCERT	TICKET ORDER FORM ts for the Dale Ann Bradley 8
	ncert in Sacramento:	
The state of the s	ember Adult Tickets (
Non-m	ember Adult tickets (@ \$15.00 each
CBA Members	nip No	
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	± 2	
Mail Ticket fo	rm, check payable to	CBA and a SASE to:
	Sacramento Con	cert Tickets
	Sacramento Area CBA	
	8532 Cumul Orangevale, (
Fo	information, call Bo	
	Tickets are also	available at

930 Alhambra Blvd. at J Street, Sacramento, CA

For information or directions, call the store at 916-452-8282

Bluegrass Folks -- Rich Ferguson

by Bill Wilhelm

Rich Ferguson is a bluegrass fan and musician who has been coming to the CBA festivals for several years now. To say he is a good bluegrass musician would be to play down his ability. He plays two instruments, the five string banjo and the resonator guitar, so commonly referred to as a Dobro.

He has become a musician in a very unusual way. First of all, he had no musical background, nor did he start out on the guitar, as most do. He happened to mention to his wife, Adele that he thought banjos sounded "kind of neat." The next Christmas she bought him one and at the age of 33, he took that quite seriously. As he was a San Leandro fireman, he took it to work. He worked at a large fire station that had a large room that could be used for such things as learning to playa musical instrument. Every day on his lunch hour when they were not out on a call, he would go in there and practice on the banjo. Without the luxury of an instructor, but by trial and error and a lot of self discipline, he learned it all by himself

As for the "Dobro," he went past a music store one day and saw one in the window. He also had always liked the Dobro sound, so he went in and asked if he could take it home and keep it for a week. He was able to do so and found it to be interesting as well as a challenge. Needless to say, he bought it. Well, to the firehouse it went. The banjo had been harder to learn than he thought, but not quite like this was. He was not short on determination or desire to be a musician. He put in a lot of time and effort with the result being the musician he is today.

Rich was born in San Leandro and has always lived there, except for a stint in the US Army in Viet Nam. He drove a tank, which made him a natural target of the Viet Kong. "There were times when I thought the only way I'd be coming home was in a box, but I did get back OK. The Good Lord must have been looking out for me. I had some good buddies who didn't make it and that's really hard to take."

At age 23 he became interested in being a fireman. He took all the tests and was accepted on the San Leandro FD where he worked for the next 29 years until his very recent retirement.

Rich has a daughter, Jenner, adopted by him and his first wife who died shortly thereafter.

Jenner now lives in Davenport, Iowa. Another child, a son, Brady lives in San Leandro. Just three months prior to this interview, another tragedy struck. Rich lost Adele, his wife of thirty years to cancer. She first learned she had cancer, ironically four months prior, during the CBA Festival.

"She was my best friend and my buddy," says Rich. "She wasn't musically inclined, but when we were playing a job, she'd be on the front row. Though I could not hear her, she was lip synching the words and smiling at me all the time. She supported me in everything I did.

He said, "One of the most wonderful things Adele and I did together was that we were foster parents to sixty nine babies." Whoah! At this point I stopped him and said that I thought I was having a hearing problem. "It sounded like you said sixty nine babies."

He told me that they actually did care for that many tiny newborn infants who were destined to have no home. They often had several of them at a time and cared for each of them for six months to a year while the courts determined where each of them should go. That is one of the most loving acts of mankind your



Rich Ferguson

Photo by Bill Wilbelm

author has ever heard of.

As Rich continued to improve in his music and jam with others he learned that harmony singing was not just two or more Continued on page A-23

Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Some Music?

Continued from page A-20

<cbockius@sbceo.k12.ca.us>
Long Beach, Papas Western BBQ & Saloon, 5305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. (corner of PCH & Anaheim St.) (562) 597-4212. Featured bluegrass band performs on Sunday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Manteca - Delta Old Time Fiddlers and Bluegrass Association, 1stand 3rd Saturdays 6:30
 - 10:30, at the Manteca Senior Center, 295 Cherry, Manteca, CA. Call Larry Burttram (209) 823-7190 for details.

• Moss Landing — Phil's Fish Market and Eatery, Sandholt Road. Bluegrass music the second and fourth Mondays of the month. The Courthouse Ramblers do a set starting at 7:00 PM, and other musicians are welcome to join in for a bluegrass picking party for the second set, starting about 8:00 PM. For information on the

music phone Keith Hayes at (831) 375-2975. For information on Phil's, phone (831) 633-2152, orcheckout the web site at philsfishmarket.com.

 Oakland - Bluegrass jam every Monday from 8-10 p.m. at the Baja Taqueria, 4070 Piedmont Ave. (near 41st Street), Oakland, CA. Phone (510) 547-BAJA. For further information call Joe Howton (510) 843-8552.

 Poway — San Diego North County Bluegrass and Folk Club Jam Session the last Wednesday night of each month at Mikey's Coffee House, 12222 Poway Road in Poway, CA. For updated information or a time slot, call (619) 486-5540 or 596-2962/

 Rialto-Jam 4th Sunday of every month at the C&A Barn, 916 S.
 Riverside Ave, Rialto, CA. 10 a.m. until late afternoon. For information call (714) 8740550 or (714) 874-4771.

 Riverside - Sunday folk and bluegrass concerts at The Barn at the UC, Riverside. For information call (714) 682-3621.

·San Diego - San Diego Bluegrass Club events - Featured band plus open mike and jamming on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 - 10 p.m. at the Carlton Oaks Country Club Crest Room, 9200 Inwood Dr. in Santee. Open Mike and Jam on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7-10 p.m. at Fuddruckers Restaurant, 340 Third St., in Chula Vista. Bluegrass Workshops on the 2nd Saturday of every month, call for time, topic and location. All events are free! Call (619) 286-1836.

 San Diego - Walt's Slow Jam, first Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m.; San Carlos Recreation Center, 6445 Lake Badin Avd., San Diego. Call Walt Richards (619) 280-9035 for information.

 San Gabriel Valley — For Saturday night jam information, call 626-332-5865.

• San Jose — Santa Clara Valley Fiddler's Association jam session, 1st Sunday of every month, 2 - 5:30 p.m., at the John Muir Middle School, 1260 Branham Lane (near the Almaden Expressway) in San Jose. All acoustic musicians welcome. For further information, contact Ken Jones, 191 Lichi Grove Ct., San Jose, Ca 95123-1751.

• San Jose - Gospel Bluegrass Jam, Monday nights 7-10 p.m. at the St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Ave., San Jose, CA. Call Ken Jones, (408) 281-2229 or (408) 354-8097 for more information.

 Trabuco Canyon — Jam session every Sunday afternoon at Cook's Corner in Trabuco Canyon, CA. A great place to meet pickers of all levels. For information, call 714-858-0266.

Whittier - 2 jams a month on Sundays. Parnell Park, corner of Lambert & Scott, Whittier, \$2 donation. Call (818) 917-0973 for information.

• Woodland Hills - Songmakers, a non-profit organization devoted to "the enjoyment and support of traditional and contemporary folk and other forms of homemade and acoustic music. For information about "hoots" in various Southen California locations and membership information write to Kay Conroy, Songmakers, 22707 Burbank Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA 91387.

Editor's note: If you bave updated information on these jam sessions or know of others, please send them to Bluegrass Breakdown, P.O. Box 9, Wilseyville, Ca 95257 or e-mail to: cbawpn@volcano.net.



Lisa Berman and Jeff Kazor of the Crooked Jades.

Photo by Howard Gold

Bluegrass Folks -- Rich Ferguson

singing the lead, but that each had a distinct part. So he learned those parts and concentrated on singing, too. He began playing in bands and the lead vocalist of one of them moved away. Rich was then able to fill that void, as he became their lead vocalist.

He had several ideas in mind that he wanted to put into a resonator guitar. It would have to be custom made, so he went to Randy Allen, a luthier in Colfax, California and explained what he wanted. Randy had made other acoustic instruments, but none quite like this. It would be experimenting to some extent, but the end result was a custommade beautiful instrument with a sound to match. He had his special matching cases made by the Calton Case company in Canada. It is obvious that he takes a lot of pride in his instru-

Rich is restoring a 1965 Divco

milk truck in his garage. It will become a mini motorhome with all the comforts of home when it is finished. Even the engine is being completely rebuilt. This will be his home at bluegrass festivals, but will likely not come onto the scene until 2001.

He can tell you some interesting stories about his experiences such as when he worked strike team #2 at the well known Oakland fire a few years back. He also worked the Loma Prieta Earthquake. There were many more stories, but he'd rather talk about bluegrass music, or better yet, play it. He says playing music together in a group is like having a nice conversation with friends. Now in retirement, he hopes to spend a lot of time playing his instruments with all his bluegrass family. I had to admire his individuality when he said, "I am happy to say I still don't know how to play a gui-

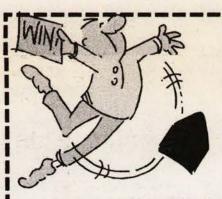


Photos of 1st Annual NCBS San Francisco Bluegrass Festival



The Kathy Kallick Band -- pictured left to right are: Tom Beckney, Amy Steinberg, Kathy Kallick and Avrim Seagal on stage at the Noe Valley Ministry, Feb. 5.

Photo by Howard Gold



BE A WINNER!

YOU can help the CBA grow AND

Be a Winner during our MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR THE MILLENNIUM

Use this membership application to sign up your friends and family members for membership in the California Bluegrass Association from June 1, 1999 to June 1, 2000 and you can win valuable prizes including a hand-crafted Michael Lewis mandolin and CBA logo merchandise. All CBA members who recruit new members will be eligible for a prize drawing to be held at the 2000 CBA Festival in Grass Valley.

CBA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, sign me up as a new member of the California Bluegrass Association.

NAME: ______ SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS:

CITY: _____ STATE: ___ ZIP: ____

PHONE: _____E-MAIL: _____

Member & Spouse \$17.50

Member only \$15.00

Add Voting Children @\$10 each

Recruited by:

CBA #_______

Senior Citizens (list birthdates):

Add voting Children @\$10 each Senior Citizens (list birthdates):

_____ Add nonvoting Children @\$1 each

Mail to: Mary Runge
CBA Membership Vice President
215 Grant Avenue
Petaluma, CA 94952

More photos of the 1st Annual San Francisco Bluegrass Festival



Kathy Kallick's beautiful voice filled the Noe Valley Ministry on February 5, the first night of the San Francisco Bluegrass Festival 2000.

Photo by Howard Gold

14th Annual Santa Cruz Bluegrass Fair set for May 6

The Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society (NCBS/SCBS) presents the 14th Annual Santa Cruz Bluegrass Fair on Saturday, May 6 from noon to 5 p.m. on the Duck Pond Stage in San Lorenzo Park, Santa Cruz, CA.

Featuring: Crooked Jades (San Francisco), Harmony Grits (Santa Cruz), Highway One (Santa Cruz), and Sidesaddle & Co. (Hollister).

The NCBS/SCBS has been presenting the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Fair since 1987 — The World's Longest-Running Celebration Of "May — Bluegrass Month". Admission is free.

San Lorenzo Park is located next to the Santa Cruz County Courthouse in downtown Santa Cruz, on the corner of Ocean and Water Streets.

In addition to wonderful music, there will be a raffle for

tickets to the society's Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival and other great prizes.

Come and enjoy a beautiful afternoon of bluegrass, friends and fun to start the summer festival season!

For further information, contact Lisa Burns at 650-964-452, or via e-mail at lisaonbass @aol.com. For more information on the NCBS/SCBA, visit their website at www.bluegrass society.org.

May is INTERNATIONAL





Kate Brislin (left) and Suzy Thompson harmonize during the performance of the Blue Flame String Band reunion at Noe Valley Ministry.

Photo by Howard Gold

The best laid plans... A sad tale of late mail and missing photographs

by Suzanne Denison

The old saying about the best laid plans... Well, as often happens, our plans to cover the inaugural San Francisco Bluegrass Festival went slightly astray.

George Martin did his part in writing a great article about the opening night of the festival, Saturday, Feb. 5, which appeared in our April issue. CBA Photographer, Howard Gold was there to get some shots of the bands who performed.

Unfortunately, the photos got lost in the mail -- it took ten days for them to get to Wilseyville from Elk Grove -- a distance of some 65 or 70 miles! They arrived the day after I went to press.

My theory is always better late than never, so the photos on this page and the previous one feature Howard's great photos.

The San Francisco Bluegrass
Festival was sponsored by the
Northern California Bluegrass
Society (formerly known as the
Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society.
The NCBS Festival committee
planned and ran all of the events.
Members are Larry Carlin, Chris
Erenta, Jeff Kazor, Christa
Dahlstrom, Lisa Berman, Barbara
Hansen, Matt Knoth, Clark Tate,
Peter Thompson and Michael
Hall.

The festival was held February 5-23 at various bluegrass venues in San Francisco, Marin and the East Bay. There were a total of seven concerts, and according to Hall, every one was filled to capacity with many fans turned away at the door of the most popular shows.

The opening concert on Saturday, Feb. 5 was held at the Noe Valley Ministry on the western edge of the Mission District in San Francisco. Bands performing at this concert were the Kathy Kallick Band, the Blue Flame String Band reunion, and the Crooked Jades.

The following evening, the festival moved to Radio Valencia Cafe where High Country and All Wrecked Up were the featured bands. The Sweetwater in Mill Valley was the site of a Tuesday night concert which featured Keystone Crossing, Dix Bruce & Jim Nunally, the MacRae Brothers and Hoof Hearted.

On Wednesday, the Last Day Saloon was packed for a concert which featured the David Thom Band and the Waybacks. The Last Day has been offering the American Roots Music Series on Wednesday nights since last summer.

Thursday night the Atlas Cafe showcased the talents of two new bands on the San Francisco scene, All Wrecked Up and stringbean. There was a standing room only crowd which included many guest performers who joined the bands on stage throughout the evening.

A new venue for bluegrass, the Kensington Circus Pub in Kensington was packed for the final festival concert which featured the Knott Brothers.

From all accounts, the 1st Annual San Francisco Bluegrass Festival was a huge success, and according to George Martin, it drewayounger than usual crowd. There seems to be a renewed interest in Bluegrass music among the 20-30's generation which I think is fueled by recent recordings and performances such as the combination of Stevie Earl and the Del McCoury Band and the return of Ricky Skaggs to Bluegrass music.

It is also heartening to me to see so many young musicians interested in and performing the music we love. Let's all encourage it to thrive and grow by supporting concerts and festivals throughout the year.



BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Bob Pasiley and Southern Grass perform memorable concert in Palo Alto

By George Martin

Publicity for the California tour of Bob Paisley and the Southern Grass referred to the Pennsylvania-based group as "probably the best band you've never heard." But once you hear these guys, you don't forget them.

One of my favorite vinyl albums from the 1970s is Rounder 0020, "Ted Lundy and the Southern Mountain Boys," the group that evolved into the present Bob Paisley aggregation. (On the cover of that album is a band photo that includes a very younglooking Bob Paisley in black "Buddy Holly" glasses, holding what appears to be the same wellworn old Martin guitar he plays to this day.)

The late Ted Lundy, father of the band's present fiddler, T.J. Lundy and its banjo player, Bob Lundy, was a wonderful banjo picker descended from a musical family of the Galax, Va., area.

Ted Lundy's grandfather, Christopher Edwards, was a traditional fiddle player, and his father, Charles Lundy, played clawhammerbanjo. When young Ted decided he wanted to play the banjo, at age 14, his father bought him an instrument but pulled all the frets out of the fingerboard, cautioning his son that a properbanjo player doesn't need frets and doesn't play chords.

Bob Paisley's father also was a traditional banjo player, so the roots of mountain music run deep in the two families that now make up the group, and indeed the Paisley band still plays some of the wonderful songs that are on that old Rounder LP, many of which were sourced from what one might call "folk" singers of the Galax area.

The Paisley band arrived in California for the first time at the 1998 Wolf Mountain festival and just ripped the place up. Bob's son Dan, now one of two guitarists in the group, has emerged as one of the finest voices in bluegrass music, the first singer I ever heard get a round of spontaneous audience applause just for singing a verse and chorus.

That band had former Bay Area fiddler (with High Country, among others) Jack Leiderman in it, and on banjo former Johnson Mountain Boy Richard Underwood. Paisley's other son, whose name unfortunately escapes me, played bass.

They returned to Wolf Mountain again last year, with Bob Lundy added on mandolin, and were, if anything, hotter than before. Over the winter Leiderman and Underwood left the band due to conflicts between their careers and touring schedules. Waiting in the wings were T.J. and Bob, who stepped in to fill the vacant slots. For the Northern California dates Jerry Logan (who has played with Laurie Lewis, among others) is on bass; in Southern California Marshall Andrews of Lost Highway was to do the bass honors.

We caught the band's first show, at the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto, Friday, March 11. The musicians had been traveling since the previous midnight, and so were coming up on 20 hours without much, if any, rest when Peter Thompson of KALW's "Bluegrass Signal" radio show introduced them.

But the sight of a nearly full house (the band could see the crowd easily because someone was unfamiliar with the lights



Bob Paisley and Southern Grass on stage at the Unitarian Church in Palo Alto. Pictured from left, T.J. Lundy on fiddle, bob Lunday on banjo, Jerry Logan on bass, Dan Pasiley and Bob Pasiley, guitars. The concert was produced by Redwood Bluegrass Associates and Peter Thompson.

Photo by George Martin

and for a while the audience was brighter than the stage) got the adrenaline flowing as T.J. Lundy's fiddle kicked off "Fire on the Mountain," and then segued into one of its up-tempo signature pieces, "No Vacancy."

The band has a powerful sound, with two rhythm guitars making for a heavy mid-range and lower register. Dan Paisley's voice is distinctive (to say the least) in solos and even adds a particular tonal color to the trios, when he typically sings the tenor part and Bob Lundy supplies the baritone.

With "At the End of a Long Lonely Day" we got our first taste of Dan Paisley's inimitable solo singing, with its intricate twists and turns and pure, buttery tone. Danny could sing the phone book and deserve a Grammy nomination. Bob Lundy contributed a nice slow banjo solo here, with the melody played mostly on the third string and fill notes done chord-style on the top two strings. It's a technique he handles with particular effectiveness.

Lundy also stayed close to his family's roots when he picked instrumentals to do. "Sourwood Mountain" is a classic old tune you don't hear much nowadays ("particularly played out of the key of B," as Dan Paisley noted), and his other showpiece was "Mountain Sally Ann," a Galaxarea clawhammer banjo tune that he played three-finger style, but in the traditional double-C tuning, capoed up to D.

T.J. also kept it down to earth, with, in his featured spots, "Sweet Potato Rag," an old tune I'd not heard before, and something he called "Gray Eagle Hornpipe," which started off unlike any "Gray Eagle" I'd ever heard and then turned into the tune we know on the West Coast in the B part. Another tune, "Fiddler's Heyday," also was unfamiliar but most welcome. No matter how well played, "Bill Cheatum" gets old after a while; there are so many fine fiddle tunes out there, it's good to hear a band that searches them out and gives them some stage time.

The band did the driving "Alcatraz Blues," associated with Mac Martin and the Dixie Travelers, and "40 Years of Suffering, 40 Years of Pain," one of their own best-known numbers.

Bob Paisley did an old Stephen Foster number, "Uncle Ned," that he said he'd learned as a child in school. They sang a lovely trio on "In His Arms I'm Not Afraid," and turned Dan loose on one of his vocal tours de force, "The Old, Old House."

They wound up with "Sitting on Top of the World," and then after an insistent ovation from the crowd, came back for "When My Time Comes to Go," which became Bob Lundy's time to go as he broke another banjo string, his third of the night. This time he put down the banjo and picked up a mandolin that had been on stage but unused to that point.

The addition of the mandolin chop, and Bob's hot solo, pointed up how nice it would be if the band had a full-time mandolin player to put that snare drum afterbeat in the mix.

But that's about all one could suggest to improve this band, which, with its tradition-steeped material and tight delivery, is one of the semi-unsung treasures of bluegrass.

They are coming back at the end of July for the Wolf Mountain Festival, so if you missed this concert tour (or even if you didn't miss it) you'll want to be in Grass Valley for that one.

STUDIO INSIDER

More about hard disk recording

by Joe Weed

Welcome to April!

I frequently start off the column with a little update about who's recording at Highland, and include a little news about my work on the Stephen Foster project. But this month, before I respond to some email from a local bluegrasser, I'd instead like to help spread the word about a wonderful acoustic band based in San Francisco, called "The Hot Club of San Francisco." Founded and run by old friend Paul Mehling, the Hot Club recreates the music and style of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli and their 1930's band "The Quintet of The Hot Club of France.

Earlier this month, my wife Marty and I went to a concert of the Hot Club's put on in San Jose by the Fiddling Cricket, producers of a great series of eclectic and mostly acoustic music including bluegrass, contemporary folk, and difficult to classify genres. The band was swinging very hard, with Paul's Djangoesque solos riding on top of two hard-hitting rhythm guitar players, upright bass, and the singing violin of Julian Smedley. It's topnotch musicianship, and includes some strong originals by Paul and a few surprises. Highly recommended for swing fans!

And this month...

I received an email from a Silicon Valley bluegrass musician, Steve K., who is looking to put together a home project studio centered on a computer-based hard disk recording system. Steve wants to record (quoting him) "country flavored Gospel music, using vocals and acoustic instruments, plus probably piano, drums, electric guitar and bass." He continues, "I've got under \$4,000 to spend. I believe I want to have a PC based system for two reasons:

1. I'm familiar with PC's

2. PC systems are considerably cheaper than Macs for equivalent power and components."

Mac vs PC

I'll address the PC versus Mac question first. It's really hard to make speed comparisons now between Macs and PC's based on the MHz number, since Macs use a dedicated processor which operates differently than a Pentium. Macs include an installed high-performance graphics card, audio in and out, large internal disk drives, firewire ports, 10/100 speed ethernet ports, and different additional components, depending on the model and the user's options. They are sold with their components installed and operating together in harmony. Macs now have a much higher performance to price ratio than they used to, and many digital audio companies still prefer to write software for the Mac environment. Digidesign's new under-\$1,000 project studio-oriented hard disk recording system, the Digi 001, has been available for Macs for several months, while they promise a release of the system for Windows 98-based systems in the first half of 2000.

Steve's first point is a good one. He's familiar with PC's, and doesn't want to have to learn another operating system at the same time he's learning how to use new audio software. But the differences between Windows and Macintosh user interfaces have blurred significantly now, and many people (including my wife and children!) find it quite simple to switch between one and another without difficulty.

This studio is dedicated to the PC I love...

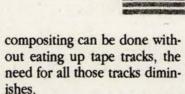
Steve makes a good point when he later states, "I'm going to buy a dedicated PC for this recording system." Technical support personnel frequently tell me that the source of many of the user problems with software come from incompatible system components called extensions. Keeping a computer dedicated to recording and studio work is a good idea in that if the computer doesn't have to have systemmodifying extensions added so it can fax, make movies, play games, and make your coffee, it'll run faster, boot up more quickly, and remain more stable.

But when I recently installed a hot-rodded Macintosh G4 in our video editing suite, the supplier had prepared some of the internal disk drives so that we could use the computer for various functions, without software incompatibilities. The simple explanation is this. When a hard disk is prepared at the manufacturer, it can be "partitioned" into separate volumes, so that it appears to the computer like several disk drives. One drive can be the "boot drive" for the studio work, and another drive can be the "boot drive" for separate office tasks. Then, whichever drive is used to boot (i.e., start up) the computer determines how the machine will function-as a recording studio or as an office manager. The systems on the two drives can be quite different. The system on the disk drive used to boot up the computer for your recording work can be left alone, stripped down to its bare essentials, and it'll run your recording sessions like a welldisciplined task master. If you want to use the same computer later to edit video, surf the net, or crunch numbers for Photoshop, you can simply start up from the other disk drive, and you'll be in business to perform all those tasks. The bottom line is, you don't have to buy a separate computer for each set of tasks.

The Count of Mounting Tracks...

"I think 24 tracks will be plenty for me, even if I record live drums. My goals are to produce a finished CD project of original material, create sound tracks to use as back-up for live performances, and produce demos of original songs," continues Steve. And he's right! Twenty-four tracks are a lot with a hard disk system. Since audio parts (a vocal of a verse, or a fiddle solo, etc.) aren't tied physically to a spot on a piece of tape, they can be moved around, edited, and composited quite easily. The need for lots of tracks just goes away.

It's really taxing to record a professional-sounding bluegrass album on an eight-track tape recorder, unless the musicians are top-quality professionals and the studio is top-notch. Even then, it's tough. But with a small hard-disk system, since edits, fixes, punches, duplicating, and



Hard disk systems usually offersome sort of "virtual tracks," a scheme in which audio can appear to be placed onto another "track" and dealt with there. But on hard disk systems, the "tracks" aren't really real estate on a piece of tape. They're ones and zeroes somewhere on your computer's hard disk. Therefore, many tracks can co-exist for your recording and editing, even if the physical inputs and outputs of the system only number eight or sixteen.

Separate but equal hard drives?

Steve's next point is another good one. He states that "the computer should have a separate hard drive just for the audio recording files, with the operating system and applications on another drive." When your computer is recording, playing and/ or processing lots of audio, disk drive usage becomes critical. Dividing the audio recording work and the application management work between two or more drives makes good sense. It keeps the recording drive from having to do too much work at one time. Digidesign, makers of the above mentioned Digi 001 system, and several other hard disk recording system manufacturers, make this same point. And to get maximum track count and processing, you'll need a fast and large disk drive to store your digital audio on.

How Big is large?

Stereo audio sampled at 44.1 K Hz and with 16-bit depth (CD-quality audio) takes up about 10 Megs of space on your hard disk for each minute you record. That means each track takes up about five megabytes of space per minute. So twenty-four tracks will take up 120 Megs of space per minute. Forty min-



Digidesign (makers of ProTools, one of the most popular computer hard disk recording systems) and several other manufacturers recommend at least ultra-wide SCSI disks for their systems to achieve optimum performance. These disks will require that your computer have an additional card installed to communicate with them. Check out the hard disk requirements of the system you are considering, and look at the specs of the hard disks included with your computer. Using information on manufacturers' web sites is an efficient way to match system requirements with component performance.

Thanks, Steve...

It was good to get some realworld questions and comments from a bluegrass musician who is just venturing into a project studio. I hope I've helped clarify some of the issues involved with a computer based system. Next month I'll answer some more of Steve's questions, and if you have any additional questions or comments, please don't hesitate to write, email, or call me.

See you next month!

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.

Ingenuity, Technology and other aids to change the playing field

by Elena Corey

In a national music magazine today, I noticed a full page ad for a new guitar model. My attention was riveted to it, in fact. It seemed that in addition to the normal six strings, this guitar had an additional group of strings stretched slantwise across the top, with tuners and everything, laid right across the wood. While not as aesthetically satisfying as a twin-neck option might have been, it at least had the advantage of proximity for the extra strings.

I looked closer, trying to understand the "why" behind this unusual arrangement and grouping of strings, and found that the instrument had been especially commissioned by a well known, outstanding guitarist. He had lamented that he couldn't do everything he wanted to do within the confines of a standardly-tuned 6-string. His endorsement said that he had thought for some time about just what he wanted before he sought out a luthier to help him accomplish his desire to have additional strings - with alternate pitches within easy reach.

That reminded me of the week I spent at the feet of a nationally renowned guitarist, paying outrageously for the privilege of learning whatever I could deduce from his lightning fast, excellently executed runs, turns, fills and breaks. Part of the week I chafed inwardly that he had billed himself as a teacher, when his total methodology seemed to be subsumed in an "if you want to play like me, just watch me" attitude.

I rationalized that I might have been able to learn to play as well as he did if the playing field were level-e.g. if my hands and finger spread were as large as his, if I had the 5-6 hours per day to practice, if I had a teacher in front of me instead of a prima donna, etc. But wait, while I was getting carried away in maudlin excuse-making, someone ventured to ask a question, about why the guitar was tuned to differing intervals, instead of all the same degree of distance from each other, as were bass, violin, mandolin, etc. I listened for the answer, assuming that the master of the 6-string would say something like, "If you don't like the heat, move to Minnesota," to show his contempt for trying to change the rules, mid-game.

Surprisingly, though, the renowned performer took the question seriously. He said something like, "There have been many attempts to design guitars which were tuned all 4ths apart-no "b" string irregularity," he specified, in case any of us novices couldn't figure out which string on our instruments was the offending culprit. Suiting action to the words, he quickly tuned the "b" to a "c" and the high "e" up to an "f", and played a high-octane riff across all the strings which would have defied replication. Tiring of that, he just as quickly re-tuned those top strings and de-tuned the bottom four strings, i.e. to low "e flat", "a flat", "d flat", and "g flat", to make the intervals consistent downwardly. He thought a few seconds and then played a 16 bar segment of an up-tempo pop standard, known for its intricate chord progression and many accidentals, in this new altered tuning.

Now you might have thought that a person seeing this amazing sleight of hand feat would be reassured, deducing that if it seemed impossible to play well in standard tuning, then all that would be necessary would be to turn a few pegs one direction or the other. Not me; I had taken the question to heart, hoping to have a legitimate excuse why I wasn't playing up to this master's standard. I could have said, "The tuning just doesn't make sense; it isn't even internally consistent,' instead of looking to my own deficiencies. His deft demonstration showed everyone watching that it really didn't make any difference how the instrument was tuned, if you were as good as he was, you could make the instrument bend to your will and produce sound pyrotechnics and musical wizardry that would dazzle anyone. His prowess and evidence of the possibilities of excellence were unavoidable.

To distract myself from seeing this great lesson, I continued to brood over the idea that although he was a great performer, he wasn't actually helping us to become better instrumentally. After the class session ended, though, I began thinking of all the ways that people who are really motivated to get their music out of themselves have managed to side-step seeming restrictions. First I thought of Elizabeth Cotton, who had several physi-

cal problems and was left handed. She turned the guitar around, tuned it to suit herself — not always to the same intervals even, and let her bodacious voice carry the day.

The first slide, bottle-neck guitarist I met had only his middle and index fingers on his left hand. His ring finger, pinky and thumb had all been cut-off in an accident; he played phenomenal



slide guitar in an open "d" tuning and had a great time. No one could say that he didn't make great music; he was astounding. Recent Celtic guitarists, in efforts to incorporate drone sounds and increase their stretch for previously unreachable chords have taken to using the DADGAD and other non-standard tunings, without apology.

Some stigma still attaches itself to open tunings for the fiddle, in some circles, and is not allowed in many contests. My own 5-string fiddle is viewed dubiously at times by folks who seem to feel that the easy availability of three octaves in first position is an unfair advantage. Having an extra string does increase the probability that I'll hit some string on a pitch that sounds relevant to the song that's being played.

Most traditional instruments have been viewed with an eye for possible alteration, which could enable a person to perform feats that he might not otherwise be able to do. Consider Scott Vestal's awesomely innovative Stealth banjo. Sometimes this thinking outside the box begets a brand new type of instrument, and people grab it and run to-

ward excellence. Sometimes these experiments just turn out to be a minor variation or a passing fad. Sometimes it takes awhile to get the individualized variations of a new idea to converge on a new understandable idea.

When I was in Texas last summer, and then again when I was in Alaska in the fall, I noticed that all the electric basses I encountered seemed to have a low "b" string. I got so used to seeing 5-string basses that when I saw a six-stringed one, I thought it was an oversized solid-body guitar. One of the most beautiful of the 5-string basses was fretless, which caused much admiration from all of the assembled musicians, for its great tone quality and intonation possibilities. Now on the guitar, Gallagher has created a Steve Kaufman seven-string model.

Some Orthey diatonic autoharps now have two little slider buttons to push and lock in place. These enable the harp to retain the accidentals of one key signature, even if chromatic intervals are needed somewhere in the piece being played. Wow! That's innovative and incredibly helpful; with technological aids like that we don't even need manuals that start out their titles with "An Idiot's Guide to..."

Some of the technology seems to be usable by a wide spectrum of folks, other examples seem to be whimsical and highly individualistic, not tempting the average mainstream musician. At the home of a friend of a friend, I was privileged to see and hear the host play a guitar whose frets sloped backward diagonally. I marveled at this and asked him about the advantageswould it be handy for playing blues, for instance? He merely shrugged and said the guitar wasn't really a prototype for future models, it was just something he had long wanted to try, and he had some spare wood.

When I listened to him play his unique guitar, I tilted my head sidewise to understand the chords, and though he played faster than I could decipher, the total effect sounded great, and I couldn't deduce any differences in sound from that produced from regular frets. I must have looked puzzled, though, for he laughed and, handing the instrument to me, said, "Here, you try it."

Right away I panicked. I checked, and yes, the guitar was tuned in standard tuning. I arched my fingers backward, trying to fret the thing into something that sounded at least vaguely musical. Taking the guitar back out of my hands, he laughed again, not unkindly, and

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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

- All Wrecked Up bluegrass, old-time, honky tonk. Contact Chris Ereneta or Christa Dahlstrom at (415) 759-5171 or online at http://members. aol.com/wreckedup.
- · Alhambra Valley Band, for information contact Lynn Quinones (510) 229-0365
- Andy Padlo Band, for information and bookings, call (415) 431-8307.
- · Arkansas Travelers, Traditional Bluegrass Music and Comedy show by award-winningduo. 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, newgrass, 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/ banderdan.html> Every Thursday "Alternagrass" is the host band for the New Talent Showcase at Twiggs Coffeehouse, Park Blvd. at Madison Ave., San Diego. For information, call: 619/296-0616. May 6-7: Claremont Folk Festival, Claremont, CA - banjo and mandolin workshops. For in-
- formation, call: 909/987-5701; May 13-14: Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival, Parkfield, CA;
- Tina Louise Barr, master performer of the Autoharp. For information or bookings, call (209) 522-6548 after 6:00 p.m. (PST). May 13 - Harps in High Gear! concert with Ramon Romero at the Unity Church, 2467 Veneman Avenue in Modesto, CA. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For information, call 209-480-4477.

contact Bill Evans at 510-234-4508; or email: <bevans @dnai.com>. April 6 -Bethlehem, PA, Godfrey Daniels w/Tony Trischka, 8 pm.; April 7-9 — Frederick, MD, Maryland Banjo Academy, Claggett Center; April 10 -Williamsburg, VA, Library Theatre w/Tony Trischka, 7:30 pm.; April 21 - Berkeley, CA, Freight and Salvage Coffeehouse w/ The Bluegrass Intentions, 1111 Addison St., 8 pm. Info - 510Glenn 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.

Dix Bruce and Jim Nunally -Award-winning acoustic guitar and vocal duo that plays original & traditional Americana, old time, folk & bluegrass. For performances, guitar and mandolin workshops, private lessons, contact: Dix Bruce (925) 827-9311 (e-mail: musix1@aol.com); or Jim Nunally (510) 787-0050 (email: jimnunally@compu serve.com).

· Brushy Peak Bluegrass Band, contact (510) 443-5217; 532 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA 94550, or web site: http:// www.ejthomas.com/brushy peak>

Cache Valley Drifters, c/o Wally Barnick, 4495 Sycamore Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422, (805) 466-2850; website: http://www.mightyfine. net>

• The Circuit Riders - for information or bookings, contact A.R. Danes, P.O. Box 1801, Susanville, CA 98130, phone 530-260-1670. April 22 -Western Bluegrass Gospel Fireside Round-up at the Fireside Village in Hat Creek, CA.

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

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

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

Country Ham, and Carl and Judie Pagter. For booking or information, call (925) 938-4221 or (804) 985-3551. June 15-18 - 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at

Ingenuity, Technology

Continued from page B3

offered to show me his newest creation — a guitar with the hole placed off center and shaped asymmetrically. Eagerly I accepted the opportunity to see such an instrument, and he quickly brought it into the room. I looked at it but didn't feel the fond yearning that the traditional guitar's familiar shape evokes, but thought I might show a little tolerance. After all, the guitar might have been an understudy for a great star, waiting in the wings for a chance to show what it could do. Who was I to hold its odd appearance against it? What if someone should take that sort of yardstick and apply it to me?

I listened to the guitar, closing my eyes so as not to prejudice myears. It did sound equally brilliant across the strings and up the neck, but I missed the resonance and warmth of my Martin. I missed it so much that as soon as opportunity allowed, when the goodbyes had been said, I got out my own trusty guitar and looked at it with a feeling approaching homesickness. It had no new technological bells or super-whistles, and it was tuned as close as I could get it to standard. I thought about the great black guitar-man who called his guitar "Mama." When it was necessary to tune his guitar, mid-performance, he would say something like, "Hey, wait a minute, you guys. Mama ain't happy." And then with a chuckle, he would follow-up, "And when Mama ain't happy, ain't no oh oh body happy," while he fiddled with the tuning pegs.

I sat in my hotel room and played my guitar for myself a couple of hours, thinking that it is great to be able to do whatever works for you. If you want to tune your instrument some new way, or add extra strings, or change the placement of its parts, that's your business. As long as it ultimately makes you feel the peaceful, happy ease that music offers as its precious gift, you're





• 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> April 29 - David Thom Band & Batteries Not Included in concert, Palo Alto Unitarian Chuch; 7:30 pm.

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 Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: http://WMPUB.com /hourglass.html > . August 17-20 2nd Annual Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River County Fairgrounds in Odell, OR;

The Bluegrass Intentions traditional Bluegrass music. For information or bookings, 548-1761 or www.thefreight. org; May 20 - Gettysburg, PA, Gettysburg Bluegrass Camporee w/The Gary Ferguson Band; July 22 -Somerset, KY, Master Musicians Festival w/Tony Trischka; July 23-28 - Levelland, TX, Camp Bluegrass, South Plains College. Info - JCarr77564 @aol.com.

• The Bluegrass Redliners, for information or bookings, contact Dolly Mae Bradshaw, 425 Park Ave., Yorba Linda CA 92866.

• Blue to the Bone - for information or bookings, contact JoAnne Martin, 3612 Tomahawk Ln., San Diego, CA92117; 858-273-3048.

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: bdsjmiller@aol.com.

Bluer Pastures, bluegrass music. For bookings contact

the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA:

- 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 web site: http://www.jps.net/tophill
- The Courthouse Ramblers, a five piece bluegrass band based in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties. For information or bookings, phone Keith Hayes at (831) 375-2975, or, visit our website at http://www2.cruzio.com/~woolfolk/
- 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.
- 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 Worldwide Web at www.doo doowah.com. July 29 — Bow-

- ers Mansion Festival at the historic Bowers Mansion halfway between Reno and Carson City, NV.
- 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.
- Barry & Annie Ernst & Ain't Misbehavin'. Acoustic & west-
- ern swing, bluegrass & more. For information & sound clips from our CDs, please visit our website: www.morning glory music.com or call 415-892-6550. e-mail: annie fidl@aol .com. April21—"Run to Heart" CD Release Party at Deer Park Villa in Fairfax, CA. 8-11 p.m. Dinner Buffet. Cover: \$3/5. Call 456-8084 for further information.
- 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>. April

6 — Bethlehem, PA, Godfrey

Daniels w/Tony Trischka; April

7-9—Buckeystown, MD, Maryland Banjo Academy

- Peter Feldmann & The Very Lonesome Boys, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenuem 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 Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: < http://WMPUB.com/ hourglass.html>.
- Foothillbillys old time string band music and other rural favorites. For information and bookings, call (209) 245-4534

or (209) 296-2601. May 19-21—Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.

• (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)

• 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 email us at: <juliejohnsongold @hotmail.com>.

• 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. April 2 — Madison Avenue Baptist Church, for the

evening service at 6:00 p.m. There is no charge but a love offering will be accepted. Everyone is invited.

•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 <www.research.digital.com/wrl/projects/misc/Grass_Menager>

 Richard Greene and the Grass is Greener, for information or

> bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: http://WMPUB.com/

- 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) 832-4656; e-mail: <hwaller @pacbell.net> First Sunday of every month - Cafe Radio Valencia, Valencia at 23rd, San Francisco, CA 7:20 - 11 p.m.
- 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/
- 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, CA91913, 619-421-8211, email Hwy52@aol.com or on the web at http://members.aol.com/hwy52/
- 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.
- booking or information, write to P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA, 94620; call 510-530-0839; or e-mail:

 bosignal@world net.att.net>. May 13 Redwood Bluegrass Associates Concert at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA; May 19-21—Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.
- Laurel Canyon Ramblers, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: < http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- Flaurie Lewis, for booking information, contact Cash Edwards, Under the Hat Productions, (512) 447-0544, FAX (512) 447-0544; e-mail: uthp@earthlink.net.
- 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 Continued on page B-6

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Dick Brown at (714)744-5847 or Ken Orrick at (909)280-9114. April 1—Redwood Bluegrass Associates Concert at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA; June 15-18 - 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; August 17-20 -Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River Fairgrounds in Odell, OR; September 21-24 — California Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, CA;

- Lost & Lonesome George Ireton and Van Atwell perform original and traditional songs about lost loves, lonesome roads, and hard times. For booking information please write to Lost & Lonesome 1958 Yahi Lane, Redding, CA 96002, or Email: ireton@shasta.com.
- MacRae Brothers, Old-Time Country Brother Duets. For information or bookings, call (530) 400-3872, write 1330 West H Street #D, Dixon, CA 95620, or e-mail MarfDu M on de @ Yahoo.com. Website: www.geocities.com/nashville/5443/MacRae Brothers.html. April 22-"Evolution of Bluegrass" concert with JaQue's Evolution of Bluegrass Band, 7 p.m. at Machado Schoolhouse, 15130 Sycamore Drive, Morgan Hill, CA
- · Modern Hicks, contemporary Bluegrass. For booking or information, call 707-544-6909. April 7 — Sebastopol Community Center with Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek. 390 Morris Street Sebastopol. CBA members \$12 others \$15 Children under 12 Free. Call Mark at 707-829-8012 for information; April 16 - 12:30 Apple Blossom Fair. Call Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce for more information; June 23-25 — Kate Wolf Memorial Festival at Caswell Vineyards near Graton. Call Cloud at 829-7067 for festival information; July 7-9-7th Annual Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival at Bolado Park in Hollister, CA; September 16 - Herb Fest Santa Rosa Ca. More information later.
- Mojave County Band, bluegrass and Cajun music. For

booking information contact: Tony Griffin, 4410 Cover St., Riverside, CA 92506. Phone (909) 784-5003 or Garyat (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.
- Mountain Laurel, for booking and information, contact Doug Bianchi at 530-265-6743 or Paul Siese at 530-265-4328; or e-mail: < dbianchi@nccn. net>. May 19-21 — Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.
- 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 Email: gsobonya@jps.net.
- Pleasant Valley, (the Giacopuzzi Family Bluegrass Band), Contemporary style Bluegrass Music. For information or bookings, call (805) 987-2386.
- 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>.
- 'Cousin' Dave Rainwater, Interactive Folk and Bluegrass Fiddler and mandolist. Available from solo to trio (with the Log Cabin Serenaders). For bookings or information, contact Dave Rainwater, P.O. Box 142, Mountain Ranch, CA 95246; or phone 209-754-5747. May 19 & 20 - Mariposa Bluegrass Festival (with Foothillbillys); June 23 - Concert with Travis Jones & Lost Highway (Sonora); July 1 -Lockeford Ranch 150th Anniversary (with New Christy Minstrels); July 30 - Bear Valley Music Festival (with New Christy Minstrels); August 8 -Bear Valley Music Festival (with Foothillbillys);
- 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. April 8—Opening Sacramento Area CBA & 5th String Music concert (Dale Ann Bradley &

Coon Creek) at the Central United Methodist Church in Sacramento, CA. For information and tickets, contact Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or 5th String Music at 916-452-8282. (Ticket order form in this issue.)

- 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, 4639 Myrtle Ave., Eureka, CA95503, phone (707) 476-8843.
- Rural Delivery, contact Larry or Carol Bazinet, 26185 Maitlin Rd., Romona, CA92065, phone (619) 486-3437 or 789-7629.
- Run Mountain, for bookings or information, contact Carolyn at (650)969-7389.
- Saddle Rash Bluegrass Band, for bookings and information, write to P.O. Box 5741, Tahoe City, CA 96145, or call (530) 581-1193. April 14 Bank of America, Commercial Row, Truckee, CA, 8 to 12 p.m.; May 12 Bank of America, Commercial Row, Truckee, CA, 8 to 12 p.m.;
- 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.
- 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.
- 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; 530-872-1187; e-mail: <SOUR DOSLIM@aol.com>; Website: < www.sourdough slim.com>. April 8 - The Palms Playhouse, Davis, CA 8:30pm W/Blackwood Tom; April 14-16 Main Street Arts Festival, Fort Worth, TX; April 28 - Coffee Gallery Backstage, Altadena, CA 8pm; April 29 & 30 - End of Trail Jubilee, Norco, CA; May 18 - Isleton Library, Isleton, CA 3pm; May 19 & 20 - Fandango, Clovis, CA; June 10 & 11 - Carson Rendezvous, Mills Park, Carson City, NV; June 24 - Cowboy Music & Poetry Show, Woodside, CA 8pm W/ Blackwood Tom;
- 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.govorcall (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.
- Stone Creek, for bookings or information, call Keith Wiggins at 530-823-2436.
- Alice Stuart and Prune Rooney, for bookings or information, e-mail: <sturoo @netshel.net>
- Stringin' Along Good time acoustic music of various styles including bluegrass, blues,

swing, and fun oldies. For information or bookings, please call Mark Giuseponi in Stockton (209) 465-0932 or Ron Linn in Brentwood (510) 634-1155.

- Tall Timber Boys, traditional bluegrass. For information or bookings, call (530) 400-3872; write 1330 West H St. Apt D, Dixon, CA 95620 or e-mail at TallTimberBoys@Yahoo.com. www.talltimberboys.com. May 12-14—SecondAnnual Camp Rude Mother's Day (May 12-14) Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Parkfield, CA. www.camprude.com.
- The David Thom Band, California bluegrass. For bookings or information, contact David Thom (415) 381-8466, david@theDTB.com. Visit our website at www.thedtb.com for gig schedule and band information. April 29—David Thom Band & Batteries Not Included in concert, Palo Alto Unitarian Chuch, 7:30 pm.; May 19-21—Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.
- Virtual Strangers (bluegrass) for information or bookings, call Jon Cherry at (619) 659-3699 or Mike Tatar at (619) 679-1225.
- Newgrass? Crabgrass? YOU make the call. Flatpicked guitar, fiddle, mandolin, humanatone, fingerpicked guitar, doghouse bass, harmony vocals and percussion. (415) 642-2872 for information and bookings. Surf on by the website at http://www.whatwasit.com for gig schedules and self-aggrandizing information.
- •Western Lights traditional music ranging from bluegrass to gospel, western swing to old timey and fiddle tunes to country blues. For information or bookings, Contact Bill Ward, (916) 361-8248; e-mail: <wardclan@ix.netcom.com> April 1 Billy Bob's Pork 'n Park, 6022 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines, 7-10pm.; July 4 Red White and Bluegrass Festival, Colfax, CA
- Wild Blue, Bluegrass Trio featuring Elmo Shropshire on Banjo. For bookings call (415) 924-7814, or write to P.O. Box 724, Larkspur, CA 94977.
- The Wilton Prison Band, traditional Bluegrass and New Grass. For booking or infor

- mation, 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. Every Friday Night at Vincenzo's, 2955 Cochran, Simi Valley, CA. For information, call: 805-579-9962.
- Dede Wyland Band, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html.
- Yesterday's Country Roads, "Country, Bluegrass Gospel", for information, contact Dan Bonds, P.O. Box 727, Hilmar, CA 95324 or call (209) 632-9079.

Bands Based in Other States

- •5 For the Gospel, for bookings and information, call (606) 474-2558, P.O. Box 778, Grayson, KY 41143.
- Eddie and Martha Adcock for bookings and information, contact Eddie or Martha Adcock, P.O. Box 180, Antioch, TN 37011, phone or fax 615-781-8728.
- Neal Backues and Silver Cloud Tradition, for bookings and information, contact Neal J. Backues, P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102; phone 573-636-0536; e-mail: neal@bluegrasssworld.com. April 14 & 15 Texas State Kick Off Festival, Canton, TX; April 21-23 Tres Rios Spring Bluegrass Festival, Glen Rose, TX:
- The Back Forty bluegrass and traditional music. For bookings and information, call Vicki Hass at 775-882-6013. May 18—Thursday night BBQ at the Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA; July 29—Bowers Mansion Festival at historic Bowers Mansion half way between Reno and Carson City, NV; September 29-Oct. 1—Fallon Bluegrass Festival in Fallon, NV.
- Bluegrass Patriots, for bookings and information, 1807
 Essex Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80526, or call (970) 482-0863.

- April 7-9 Mesquite Star Springtime Bluegrass Music Festival at the Mesquite Star Casino, Mesquite, NV (70 miles northeast of Las Vegas on I-15); April 14-16 - 6th Annual Durango Bluegrass Meltdown, Durango, CO; May 26-28 -Western Colorado Festival Grand Junction, CO; June 15-18 - 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; June 23-25 -Black Hills Bluegrass Festival, Rapid City, SD; July 7-9 - Basin Bluegrass Festival, Brandon, VT; July 12-McCullough Family Bluegrass Festival, Chillicothe, MO; July 14-15 -Little Eagle Creek Bluegrass Festival, Westfield, IN; July 22-23 - Beartrap Summer Festival, Casper, WY
- Blue Highway, for information and bookings contact RS Entertainment, 329 Rockland Road, Hendersonville, TN 37075, (615)264-8877, FAX-(615)264-8899; e-mail: <andreacompton @juno.com>. August 17-20 Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River Fairgrounds in Odell, OR;
- 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.chapel1.com; website: <www.daleann.com>. April 7 — CBA North Bay Concert at the Sebastopol Community Center in Sebastopol, CA. For information or tickets, contact Mark Hogan at 707-829-8012; April 8 — CBA Sacramento Area & 5th String Music Store Concertat the Central United Methodist Church in Sacramento, CA. Ticket order form for both concerts on page 21.; April 9-



Soladad Street in Monterey, CA. Information, call 831-372-5641; April 10—Hastings Tavern, 9450 Hwy. 9 in Ben Lomand, CA; April 11—Christian Church, corner of Central and Care Ave., in Pacific Grove,

and Care Ave., in Pacific Grove, CA; April 12 — Freight and Salvage Coffee House in Berkeley, CA; May 25-27 — Coon Creek Music Festival at the Ohio-Kentucky Campground on Kentuckystate road 21 near

Continental Divide, for booking or information, contact David Parmley at (615) 824-4399. May 19-21 — Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.

Berea, Kentucky:

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

- •John Cowan Band, for booking or information, contact Class Act Entertainment, P.O. Box 160236, Nashville, TN 37216, phone 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: <Class_Act@compu serve.com; website: <www.mindspring.com/-bumn/classact>. April 14 Snowshoe Brewing Co., Sonora, CA; May 26 Strawberry Music Festival at Camp Mather, CA;
- 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.mind spring.com/bumn/classact>. June 13-18—"California Reunion" at the CBA 25th Anniversary Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA.

• J.D Crowe and the New South, for information and bookings, contact: Philibuster Entertainment, Phil Leadbetter, 8207 Thompson School Road, Corryton, TN 37721, (423) 688-8855; e-mail: <lead@esper.com>. June 15-18 — 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;

• 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>.April 21 - Bethlehem, PA, Godfrey Daniels, 7 & 9 pm (610-867-2390); April 22 — Lexington, MA, Boston Bluegrass Union, Museum of Our National Heritage, 7:30 pm (617-782-2251); May 12 - Elba, AL, Heart of Dixie Bluegrass Festival, Roger Booth (800-392-7014); May 13-14-Decatur, IL, Indoor Bluegrass Festival, Terry Lease (217-243-3159); May 20-21 -

Gettysburg, PA, Gettysburg Bluegrass Camporee, Joe Cornett (717-642-8749); June 3-4 — Preston, CT, Strawberry Park Bluegrass Festival, Buck Beiber (860-886-1944);

The Fox Family for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment, 803 1/2 Montrose Avenuem South Pasadena, CA 91030; phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: < http://WMPUB.com /hour glass.html > . May 19-21 - Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA.; June 15-18 -25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;

• Freight Hoppers, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.

• Front Range, for bookings and information contact Chris Pritchard at 800-547-4784 or e-mail: <cwp54@aol.com>.

• The Grasshoppers — For information and bookings, contact Glen Garrett, 844 Bonnie Brae, Nampa, Idaho 83651 or call (208) 465-0399. August 17-20 — 2nd Annual Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River County Fairgrounds in Odell, OR; September 21-24 — 10th Annual Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival (Late Summer)

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at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, CA;

- High Plains Tradition, For booking and information, contact Chuck Tinsley, PO Box 522, Denver, CO 80201; call (303) 601-4113; e-mail: High Plains Tradition @yahoo.com; or visit their web site: http://www.banjo.com/Profiles/HPT.html.
- IIIrd Tyme Out, for information and bookings, contact the Deaton Agency at 770-271-9056. June 15-18 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in 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, 1025 17th Ave. S. 2Nd Fl., Nashville, TN 37212, 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. June 13 Bean Blossom, IN Festival; June 16 Huck Finn Jubilee, Victorville, CA; June 17-18 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; June 22 Canton, TX Festival;
- 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. June 17 & 18 Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Telluride, CO; July 15 & 16 Darrington Bluegrass Festival, Darrington, WA;
- •Lost and Found, for information and bookings, contact Allen Mills, P.O. Box 90, Woolwine, VA 24185, (540) 930-2622. June 15-18 25th

- annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;
- Claire Lynch and the Front Porch String Band, for information and bookings contact Class Act Entertainment, P.O. Box 771, Gallatin, TN 37066, phone (615) 451-1229.
- Kate MacKenzie, for information and bookings contact Red House Records (800) 695-4687.
- Del McCoury Band, for information and bookings contact RS Entertainment Offices, 329 Rockland Road, Hendersonville, TN 37075, phone 615-264-8877.
- John McEuen, for information and bookings write 5384 S. Alpine, Murray, Utah 84107 or call (801) 265-8486.
- Lynn Morris Band, for information and bookings contactClass Act Entertainment: phone 615-262-6886; FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: Class_Act@compu serve.com; website: www.mind spring.com/budm/classact. September 21-23 10th Annual Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival (Late Summer) at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, CA;
- Mountain Heart, for information and bookings contact Barry Abernathy, 11771 Big Creek Road, Ellijay, GA 30540; phone: 706-276-6888; e-mail: email@mountainheart.com; website: www.mountainheart.co. May 19-21 Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA; June 15-18—25th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;
- · Nashville Bluegrass Band, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, 1025 17th Ave. S. 2Nd Fl., Nashville, TN 37212, phone (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. May 27-28—Strawberry Spring Music Festival, Camp Mather near Yosemite, CA; June 17 -Huck Finn Jubilee, Mojave Narrows National Park in Victorville, CA; June 18 - Live Oak Music Festival, Santa Barbara, CA; July 24-27 - Bluegrass Academy, Mountain Valley Ranch in Lyons, CO; July 29 &30-Rocky Grass, Mountain

- Valley Ranch in Lyons, CO;
- The New Asheville Grass, for information and bookings, contact Desi Murphy, 834 Cragmont Rd. #15, Black Mountain, NC 28711 (704) 669-8752 or Nicholas Chandler, 13 Christ School Road, Arden, NC 28701 (704) 684-4968.



- No Strings Attached, "Bluegrass with a Twist". For bookings or information, contact Kathy Boyd at (503) 656-4462 or Judy Arterat (503) 632-4616. Check out their Web Site at http://www.Swift Site.com/nostringsattached > August 17-20—Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River Fairgrounds in Odell, OR;
- 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>.
- Northern Pacific, for information and booking contact Trisha Tubbs, P.O. Box 601, Woodinville, WA 98072-0601; phone 425-481-7293; or email: trishtubbs@aol.com.
- Tim O'Brien & Darrell Scott, for information and 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>. June 23 Snowshoe Brewing Co., Sonora, CA; June 24 Kate Wolf Festival at Caswell Vineyards in Sebastopol, CA.
- Peter Rowan, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
 April 15—Concert at the Boul-

- der Theater in Boulder, CO; April 16 - Concert at the Ramada Inn in Glenwood Springs, CO; April 17 - Concert at State Bridge Lodge in Bond, CO; April 18 - Concert at the Howling Wolf Restaurant in Aspen, CO; April 21 - Concert at the Adams Mark Hotel in Grand Junction, CO; April 22 -Spirit of the Earth Concert at Ft. Lewis College in Durango, CO; July 29 & 30 - Rocky Grass, Mountain Valley Ranch, Lyons, CO.
- · 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.April28 8:00pm, Full Sail Brewing, 506 Columbia, Hood River, OR. A benefit for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. (541-386-2247) http:// www.fullsailbrewing.com/; July 28-30 - Wolf Mt. Bluegrass Festival, Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; August 11-13 - Mt. St. Helens Bluegrass Festival, Toledo High School, Toledo, WA; August 17-20 - Oregon Bluegrass & Cowboy Music Festival, Hood River County Fairgrounds, Odell, 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: <sandmtnboy @aol. com>; June 15-18 25th annual Silver Anniversary CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA;
- Dean Sapp & Hartford Express, traditional and original bluegrass. For bookings and information, contact Power Music/Old Train Music, 2711 Augustine Herman Hwy., Chesapeake City, MD 21915 (410) 885-3319.
- Seldom Scene, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.
- Ron Spears and Within Tradition, c/o CBJK Music, 4895
 Pavant Ave., West Valley City, UT. 84120. Phone 801 955-1978. July 29 Bowers Mansion Festival at historic Bowers Mansion halfway between

- Reno and Carson City, NV; July 28-30 — Wolf Mt. Bluegrass Festival, 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@frederick town.K12.mo.us.
- The Slide Mountain Boys good, pure, down to earth, traditional Bluegrass. For booking or information, contact Charles Edsall, 3545 Vista Blvd., Sparks, NV 89436 or call 702-626-3412.
- Southern Rail for information or bookings, contact: Sharon Horovitch PO Box 323, Watertown, MA 02471; phone 781-891-0258; or e-mail: <SouthernRail@workdstd.com> June 17-18—Schenectady, NY, Union Presbyterian Church. Vocal Harmony workshop, Children's workshop, Gospel service and Town Concert. Call for locations and times. 518-382-5152.;
- Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers, for information and bookings, contact Larry Sparks, P.O. Box 505, Greenburg, IN 47240, (812) 663-8055.
- Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, for information and bookings contact Randy Campbell of Superior Communications Company, 340 S. Columbus Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85711-4138, phone (520)327-5439, FAX (520)327-5378, L.A. Office (323) 258-0969.
- 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, Oldtime Country and Gospel featuring the close family vocal harmonies of Joe, Kathy and Dee. For bookings for information, write to 27602 N. 151 Ave., Sun City West, AZ 85375; phone 623-584-1552; FAX: (623) 584,4396; E-mail: KTYLERAZ@aol.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

From Down Under to top of the heap

Aussie Steve Gilchrist makes some of the world's most coveted mandolins

By George Martin

It is perhaps just another example of the magical wonderfulness of bluegrass music that a teenage boy growing up along the south coast of Australia could hear a vinyl record album imported from the United States, be struck with the beauty of the mandolin, and launch himself into a journey that leads him to the highest levels of stringed instrument building.

The young Australian was and is Steve Gilchrist, whose mandolins (and other mandolin-family instruments) and archtop guitars are so coveted that the waiting list for one is up to two years long. Each year, in his small shop in the tiny town of Woodford, near Warrnambool, three hours west of Melbourne, Gilchrist makes three batches of about a dozen instruments, each one presold to an eager owner, mostly in the United States.

"Bluegrass music came over to Australia in the '60s and '70s, with record imports," Gilchrist recalled. "The folk boom happened about that time. That's how I first heard the instruments, import records.

"Norman Blake and Tut Taylor was actually the first record I ever heard, and when I heard that old Martin sound, the Dobro, the mandolin sound, that's what I wanted to do. I was half-way through college and I dropped out to start making mandolins."

Gilchrist said his first mandolins were crude and unsophisticated, "but I was impassioned with the desire to make them." Fortunately the young luthier was able to sell the first mandolin he made, and all those thereafter, though he really earned his living early on doing lots of repair work. Many Australian players want flat-top mandolins for Celtic music, and Gilchrist made some of those, too, but said, "my total passion, my motivation, was archtop mandolins."

Just to give you an idea of the burning desire that Gilchrist was experiencing, he built his first F-5 style mandolin from drawings he derived from a photograph on a Bill Monroe album. "I scaled the plans from that," he said, "using his hand as the basic standard of measurement. His finger is about that size; my finger is about that size. I'd extrapolate. Obviously the first instruments were pretty crude."

What Gilchrist needed was a look at a "real" mandolin, and he eventually found one at a vintage store in Melbourne that occasionally imported and sold old Gibsons.

"The first one I saw was a 1914 Gibson F-2," Gilchrist remembered. "It completely revolutionized my life, just changed me completely. I saw the genre, the styling, the form and the craftsmanship, and the tradition. And I just jumped straight in."

Gilchrist continued building and selling mandolins, each one a bit better than the last. But it was a hard go, with proper materials hard to come by, and he was running out of motivation, "locked in a small pond." So Gilchrist packed a sample of his work and bought an airline ticket to the United States, where he hoped to find a good source of building materials and make contacts in the instrument-making and musical worlds.

"I was offered work at Mandolin Brothers in New York and at Gruhn's Guitars in Nashville," he said. "I returned to Australia to build a few more instruments to get the money to buy another ticket back to Tennessee."

Gilchrist said working in Nashville during 1980 and '81 was like getting a Ph.D. in lutherie, "10 years condensed down to two." He did repairs and restorations and built about a dozen of his own instruments during that time. "It gave me access to a whole tradition," he said, "the whole gamut of quality of stringed instruments, from the worst to the best, were coming over my workbench all the time, and the whole picking culture of Nashville, and the quality of performance and players, just changed my life.

When Gilchrist returned to Australia, he had a bunch of orders for mandolins and a contract to supply instruments to Gruhn's, which he did for several years. "That gave me exposure," he said, "to the world market. It's a small bluegrass market around the world, but it tapped me into the whole thing.

"It's been snowballing from

that time," he said. "My work has been developing and maturing from that point. I've been really well supported by the players and the professional players as well. Guys like David Grisman, I give great credit to. He's supplied motivation for me all the time; he's always encouraging me, showing me instruments."

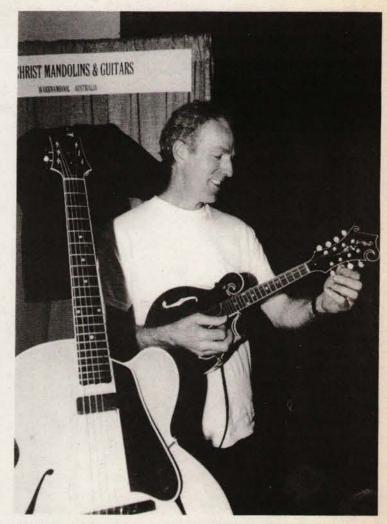
Gilchrist's reputation grew as more people played his mandolins. "You get enough instruments out there circulating, they start to work in your favor after a while," he explained. "Bluegrass musicians in particular, they really know; they're specific, particularly about the sound they want. Advertising doesn't really work. It's the grass-roots playing of the instruments, hearing the instruments, that makes or breaks your reputation. They are more or less little ambassadors for you, and in the long run that's the only advertising that works.

"Nobody buys a \$9,000 mandolin without seeing one or knowing the reputation," he continued. "All of my players are very familiar with what I've done, and what I'm doing now and hopefully they'll follow me where I'm heading."

Of course the sound most bluegrass pickers are looking for is what comes out of a "Lloyd Loar" Gibson F-5 Artist model like the one Bill Monroe played. Those now sell for \$40,000 and up, which makes a Gilchrist look downright reasonable.

"My market, the bluegrass market, is generally very conservative," he continued. "You are being compared constantly to what happened from 1922-24 in Kalamazoo, Mich. The look and the sound is very important, and the sound is determined, whether they know it or not, by the look. That specific species of maple largely determines the sound, and how you carve that particular wood determines the Loar sound.

"You can use anything, and if it's carved correctly it will be a good-sounding mandolin, but it won't necessarily be *the* sound. I've come to rely, as most mandolin makers do, on spruce and maple, species that I can control and be really consistent with the sound of the instrument."



Mandolin Maker Steve Gilchrist at the 1999 IBMA World of Bluegrass Trade Show. (He also made the arch-top guitar.)

Photo by George Martin

I was rather surprised by Gilchrist's statement that a mandolin top doesn't really need bracing for strength. "But the braces control the amount of vibration," he said, "stiffen the top or loosen the top, according to the type of sound." Gilchrist says he doesn't necessarily put the braces where Gibson put them. "Each top is hand-done," he said. "It's hand-tuned and the braces are located where that top should be stiffer or looser."

Gilchrist said he has been inspired from the beginning by the original Gibson factory, as it developed its arch-top mandolin family of instruments between about 1910 and 1925. "I had the old catalogs," he remembered, "and I used to drool over them, particularly the photographs of the old workshops with the racks and racks of instruments, and the workmen, just going to work every day, and that was their day job, making the highest quality stringed instruments of the time."

He doesn't restrict himself to mandolins; in fact each batch of instruments usually includes at least one mandola, or mandocello, or lately an archtop guitar. "When people see what I do, they might think that arch-top guitars are a complete 90-degree turn from mandolins," he said. "But they're not; they are exactly the same thing. They're mandolins, mandolin construction. That's how Gibson always did it; that's how they saw them.

"If you take it right down to the Les Paul [for you totally isolated bluegrass purists, that's a solid body electric — Ed.], they've got the essence of the L-5 there, the carved top. The nuances harken back to the golden era, which is arch-top instrument building."

Gilchrist's instruments are distributed by Carmel Music Co. Owner Dexter Johnson said he feels privileged to work with a talent like Gilchrist.

"He's the guy, the guy, who has studied the deepest into the Loars, and carried the tradition into the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century," Johnson said. "He's probably worked on more Loars and has certainly been faithful to the traditions, including the varnish, the woods and everything else. And you know the roster of people that appreciate them and play them..."

Carmel Music is at PO Box 2296, Carmel CA 93921. Phone (831) 624-8078.

5th String Music Store presents Frank Where to go to find Wakefield and Friends in Concert

On Saturday, February 19, the 5th String Music Store of Sacramento presented legendary mandolin wizard Frank Wakefield and some of his talented friends in concert at the United Central Methodist Church in downtown Sacramento.

Our intrepid photographer, Howard Gold, was on hand to get these great shots of the Green Brothers Band opening the concert, and the Frank Wakefield

Band in action. We hope you will enjoy Howard's photographs and visit the 5th String Music Store the next time you are in Sacramento.

Members of the Green Brothers Band are: John Green, guitar; Skip Green, bass; Jim Beeler, mandolin; and Robert Bowden, banjo. Frank Wakefield's band members are: Frank on mandolin; Jim Moss, fiddle; David Nelson, guitar; Steve Swann,

bass; Peter Grant, dobro; and Graham Murphy, banjo.

John Green and his friendly staff will welcome you to their store at 930 Alhambra Blvd. at J Street in Sacramento any time. In addition to concerts, the 5th String hosts a jam session every Thursday evening from 6 to 10 p.m. and pickers of all levels are welcome. For information or directions, call the store at 916-452-8282.



The Green Brothers Band opened the Feb. 19 show sponsored by the 5th String Music Store in Sacramento. Pictured left to right are Jim Beeler, Skip Green, John Green, and Robert Bowden. Photo by Howard Gold



The Frank Wakefield Band -- pictured left to right are Jim Moss, Frank Wakefield, Steve Swan (bass partially hidden), David Nelson and Graham Murphy. Not pictured is Peter Grant on Photo by Howard Gold Dobro.

Live Acoustic Music

- Atlas Cafe, 3049 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA; phone 415-648-1047. Bluegrass jam session and open mic last Thursday of every month, 8 - 10 p.m.
- Billy Bob's Pork 'n Park, 6022 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines, CA. Bluegrass music on Saturday nights—call 530-647-1507 for details. All shows start at 7:00 and end at 10:00 PM. April 1 - Western Lights:
- Blue Rock Shoot, 14523 Big Basin Way, Saratoga, CA; phone 408-867-3437.
- · Cafe Romano, Main and Castro in Martinez, CA, phone 510-370-0700.
- Castle Folk Club, 100 Connecticut St., San Francisco, CA., (510) 531-0339.
- Cold Spring Tavern, Stagecoach Road (just off State Highway 154) 15 minutes from either Santa Barbara or Santa Ynez. CA. For information or directions, call (805) 967-0066. The Cache Valley Drifters perform every Wednesday from 7 - 10

- Cuppa Joe's, 194 Castro St., Mountain View, CA. For more information, call 650-967-2294. Bluegrass jam session every Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- Espresso Garden, 814 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. Bluegrass and other acoustic music performances. For informaiton on performers, call Dick at 408-292-7940. For food information, call the restaurant at 408-298-0808.
- Daniel's, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. Weekly Bluegrass jam session every Wednesday 7-10:30 p.m. at the Country Table Restaurant, 8999 Greenback Lane in Orangevale, CA. Periodically features Bluegrass band performances. For further information, call Sacramento Area CBA Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.
- The 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra at J Street, Sacramento, CA. For information, call (916) 442-8282. Bluegrass Jam Session every Thursday

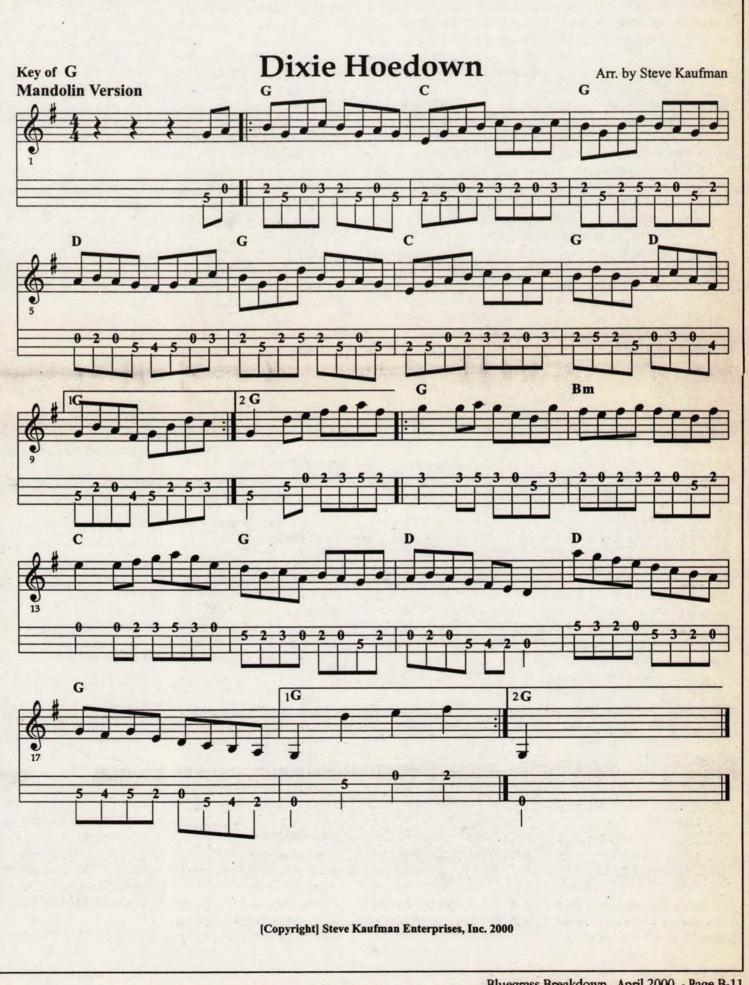


Frank Wakefield working out on his famous mandolin. Photo by Howard Gold

Where to go to find Live Acoustic Music

- night at 7:30 p.m. House Concert Series Performances times and prices vary - call for information.
- The Fox And Goose Public House, 1001 R street, Sacramento, California. The Fox and Gooose, long noted as a spot for good brew and live acoustic entertainment, has started to host a bluegrass jam session each month between 8:30 PM and 11:30 PM. Call 916-806-2545 for further information.
- · Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley. Call (510) 548-1761 for information, or visit their web site at: < www.thefreight. org> April 12 - Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek; April 22 - Bluegrass Intentions;
- · Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, San Francisco, CA, (415) 885-0750.
- · Henflings Tavern, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, CA; phone 831-335-1642 or e-mail: TMM@cruzio.com for upcoming performances.
- Java Cafe, 320 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA, (415) 927-1501. Larry Carlin and Carltone Music hosts a Bluegrass Jam session evey other Thursday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. There is no cover charge, and all acoustic bluegrass instruments are welcome (no percussion or electric instruments will be permitted).
- The Kensington Circus Pub 389 Colusa Ave., Kensington, CA; (925) 524-8814.
- · La Di Da Cafe & Gallery, Kelly and Purissima, Half Moon Bay, CA (415) 726-1779.
- Maytan Music Center & Coffee House, 777 South Center St., Reno, NV 89501, (702) 323-5443.
- The Last Day Saloon, 406 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA. For information, call David at 415-387-6344 or e-mail: fivearms@yahoo.com. "American Roots Music" on Wednesday nights, featuring bluegrass, country/western and folk music. Call for information and times. April 5 -TBA; April 12 - Baby Gramps; April 19 - Tom Armstrong; April 26 - Waybacks;
- · Last Stage West, 15050 Morro Road, Highway 41, West of Atascadero. Acoustic music and jams. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Hosted by Buffalo Bob and Carmon Brittain. For information or to

- book a gig, call 805-461-1393. (Self-contained camping available on site.)
- McCabe's Guitar Shop, 3101 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA. For information call (213) 828-4403 or tickets (213) 828-4497.
- Merry Prankster Cafe, Hwy. 84, La Honda, CA, phone: 650-747-0660, website: < www. scruznet.com/~prankstr/>.
- Bluegrass every Sunday afternoon followed by bluegrass jam session.
- · Michelangelo's Pizza Parlor, downtown Arcata, California. Live acoustic music every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night from 7-9 p.m., no cover charge. Bluegrass music on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday with Aunt Dinah's Quilt-
- ing Party. Other music includes Irish, Country, Dixieland, and Folk. For information, call (707) 822-7602
- · Miner's Foundry Cultural Center, 325 Spring Street, Nevada City, CA. For information, call (916) 265-5040.
- · Mr. Toot's Coffee House, up stairs over Margueritaville in Capitola Village, CA. For infor-
- mation, call 831-475-3679. Tangled Strings - bluegrass every Sunday night from 5 to 8
- · Murphy's Irish Pub, on the east side of the square in downtown Sonoma, California. Acoustic jam session (Celtic primarily) 1st Sunday of the month from 6 PM until it's Continued on page B-12



J.D.'s Bluegrass Kitchen

Howdy, Howdy!

Here we go again folks. Come on in, close the door quick, and pour yourself a big mug of Cowboy coffee. Drag a chair over by the stove, fer its a cold one this morning! Winter dies hard here in the mountains of Calaveras County.

As I write this, its the ninth of March and its been snowing, raining, sleeting, hailing, and in general just been weather that only a Polar Bear would love for the last week or so here on Bluegrass Acres. That doesn't bother me none though.

Since I'm retired now and don't HAVE to go out in such weather if I don't want to, I just den up here in the house, throw another log on the fire and cook up a big mess of good vittles!

That's probably why, come spring every year, I swear that someone keeps sneaking into my closet and putting smaller clothes in there. I know it costs them a lot of money, because they're exactly like the bigger ones I had in my closet late last summer! They must have several sets of matching clothes, because around June the clothes start to get a little looser on me and by August or early September they've got all the big ones back in my closet! But come Thanksgiving they start putting the small ones back in my closet again!

Whoever is doing it, I wish they'd get a life of their own and leave my clothes alone! I've studied on this for several winters now and I've come to realize that its a conspiracy of sorts. I can't prove it, but I'd bet a dollar to a donut that its one of those groups that doesn't eat real food that's behind all of this clothes swapping!

You folks know the kind I mean. The ones that can't bear to watch you eat some of your mama's crispy fried chicken or cook up a medium rare 2" thick Rib Steak along with a pile of smashed' taters and cream gravy!

They'll stand there and tell you how you're killing yourself with every bite and if it tastes good, you're supposed to spit it out! They're all walking Encyclopedias of facts, it seems. They can spout Cholesterol levels for foods that haven't even been invented yet. They could probably tell you the unsaturated fat content of life on the moon or one of the other planets.

Now here's what tipped me off as to who's swapping my clothes. Have you even noticed that these people that don't eat real food are all as skinny as snakes? They must use super glue to keep their pants from falling off! I've often wondered how they come and go in my house with nary a sign or footprint.

Simple, they merely slip under the door! (Now every ol' country boy knows that if you leave the smallest knot hole uncovered in the hen house, a big ol' egg-loving garter snake is going to get yer eggs!) And as for the footprints, they're too light to leave any!

Well you can bet that there ain't no good ol' red neck country boys that belong to this group. Every good ol' boy I've ever known loves to eat real food and some of 'em even have trouble gettin' in and out of their "Cowboy Cadillacs" (pickup trucks). Ken Reynolds comes to mind, why, I don't know. Come to think of it so do J.R. Schoggins, John Murphy, Don Evans, and a few more that space won't permit here. (Pun intended.)

Folks, you know for a fact that none of the aforementioned are party to this clothes swapping conspiracy that seems to sweep our country come winter every year.

To all you consumers of Algae or tree bark, or whatever it is that you subsist on, all I've got to say is, God bless you! You can have my share of whatever it is that sustains you, but for myself, I'm gonna' keep on eating my good ol' biscuits and gravy, barbecued red meat, chicken (fried, boiled, baked), mygood ol' country sausage, country fried steak, smashed 'taters and gravy and last, but not least, my good ol' cornbread and beans!

Ahyes, cornbread and beans! Even the health food nags will admit that cornbread and beans are close to being the most perfect meal that was ever invented. Some of 'em won't admit it, but they know it.

Cornbread and beans, along with two or three other dishes are probably the Southern states' greatest contributions to the food of our wonderful country, America. (I can still smell that big cast-iron pot of beans simmering on my mama's woodburning cook stove when I was a young'un in Arkansas.)

Well, I'm here to tell you folks that I've got two of the best recipes for cornbread for you that ever came down the Pike. Along with that, I'm featuring one of my original Cowboy Beans recipes that's fed a lot of hungry folks over the years. My ol' pickin' partner, Vern Williams, can really put a hurt on a pot of these! Vern always said he never met a bean he didn't like!

Let's start off with my bean recipe and while they're soaking, we can whip up a couple of skillets full of good ol' cornbread.

Cowboy Style Pinquito Beans

1 1/2 lbs. Pinquito Beans 4 cloves garlic, minced 2 TBS. olive oil 1 bay leaf

1 tsp. whole Cumin, parched and ground 1 4-oz. can diced, sweet chilies

1 tsp. dried basil

1/2 tsp. dry mustard 1 tsp. crumbled, dried, red peppers

1 28-oz. can tomato sauce

2 TBS. brown sugar

2 TBS. brown sug 2 TBS. molasses

Sort the beans. Place in a heavy pot, cover with at least one inch of water. Mix in 2 tsp. baking soda and 2 tsp. salt. Soak 8-12 hours or overnight. Pour off water, rinse well (2 or 3 times). Cover with water and add everything but the last three ingredients. Bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer and cook 2 to 3 hours, or until beans are tender. When done, drain off most of the liquid and add the tomato sauce, brown sugar and molasses. Add water if necessary to cover beans and add a dollop (1/4 cup) of Port of Sherry wine. Mix well and cook another 20 to 30 minutes on medium heat to thoroughly heat the sauce. Serve over cornbread.

I first cooked this recipe over a good wood fire while on an extended deer hunting trip back in the late 1950's. What gives it that different "whang" is how you prepare the Cumin. Heat a dryskillet good and hot and pour the whole Cumin in. Keep shaking the skillet back and forth for about 2 minutes; pour into a mortar or plate. Let it cool for 10 minutes or so and crush into a fine powder. Cumin prepared like this releases the full flavor of

Where to find Live Acoustic Music

Continued from page B-11 over. Bluegrass jam 3rd Tuesday of the month from 7-10:30 p.m. Live acoustic music Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights. "Sonoma Mountain Band plays Bluegrass on the first Friday of every month, 8-10 pm. For further information call 707-935-0660 or email: murphy@vom.com.

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

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

 Northridge Inn, 773 Nevada Street in Nevada City. They frequently feature bluegrass bands on Saturday evenings. Shows start about 7:00 and band usually play two or three sets. If your band would like to play at the Northridge Inn, call Lynn at 530-478-0470.

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

 The Palms, 726 Drummond Ave., Davis, CA 95616. For information and tickets, call (916) 756-9901 or e-mail: palms@yolo.com. April 1 -Mumbo Gumbo; April 8 - Sourdough Slim;

 Phil's Fish Market and Eatery, on Sandholt Road, Moss Landing, CA. "For fine food, find Phil's". Live bluegrass beginning at 7:00 PM every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month with the Courthouse Ramblers. Other musicians are welcome to join in for a bluegrass picking party for the second set, starting about 8:00 PM. For information on the music phone Keith Hayes at (831) 375-2975. For information on Phil's, phone Phil's at (831) 633-2152 for information, or check out the web site at philsfishmarket.com.

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

Radio Valencia Cafe, 1199
 Valencia at 23rd Streets, San Francisco, CA, phone 415-826-1199. Bluegrass and Old-time music every Sunday 7:30-11 p.m. Dark Hollow, traditional Bluegrass band performs the 2nd and 4th Sunday every month; Crooked Jades perform the 3rd Sunday every month,

7-11 p.m. High Country performs the First Sunday of every month.

Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA; phone: 408-297-9151. Every Tuesday 6-9 p.m. music from the 20's, 30's and 40's by Moonglow (Beth McNamara and Jerry Ashford). Every Wednesday night will feature one of three bands: Sam's Barbecue Boys, Sidesaddle & Co., or Grass Menagerie — call ahead for details.

 San Gregorio General Store, Stage Road, just off Highway 1, 12 miles south of Half Moon Bay, CA, 650-726-0565. Third Sunday (2-5 pm): County Line Bluegrass Band performs.

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

• Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call (415) 388-2820. April 18 — David Thom Band Marin CD release party with Keystone Crossing opening the show. Come help celebrate the one-year anniversary of the monthly bluegrass series Bluegrass Gold produced by Larry Carlin and Carltone Music.

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

J.D.'s Bluegrass Kitchen

the spice that you can't attain by any other way. Its like having fresh ground coffee versus that out of a can. There's that much difference in the flavor!

Now for some of the finest cornbread that you'll ever wrap a lip around!

This first recipe I must have cut out of a magazine and God knows when. I found it on the bottom of one of my brown paper bags full of recipes a couple of years ago, so I glued it to a recipe card and put it in my "Kitchen Box". I made a batch of this last winter and kind of forgot about it until January of this year when I ran across the recipe again. Since then, I've made a big skillet-full of this about twice a week!

In fact, this morning I got up around 6 a.m., whipped up a skillet-full, popped it in the oven for 35 minutes, and had two big wedges of it topped with two poached eggs with hollandaise sauce slathered all over it! Wow! My Cowboy buddy, Pat Russell (of the famous, rustling Russells), joined me for breakfast and he said "this goes to the head of the class"! Pat said for me to fix this next time he's invited for breakfast - I think he liked it. I don't know of this recipe really came from Mexico, but they call it:

Mexican Cornbread

1 cup corn meal
1/3 cup flour
2 TBS. sugar
1 tsp. salt
2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/3 cup chopped onion
2 TBS. chopped green pepper
1 pickled or fresh Jalapeño pepper, minced
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
2 eggs, beaten
1 cup buttermilk
1/2 cup vegetable oil

183/4-oz. can creamed corn Heat oven to 350°. Grease your 10" cast-iron skillet and place in the oven to preheat. Beat the eggs for 1 to 2 minutes; beat in 1/2 cup oil; and then the buttermilk. Mix in the corn meal and flour, salt, sugar, soda, and baking powder. Add everything else and mix well with a wooden spoon. Remove the hot skillet from the oven. Wade up a paper tower and grease the skillet bottom and sides thoroughly. Pour in cornbread batter. Place in the oven and bake for 30-35 minutes

or until golden brown on top. Cut into 8 wedges. Excellent either hot or cold. (You can use regular milk if you don't have buttermilk. Just omit the baking soda.)

Pre-heating your skillet is essential to having a nice crunchy crust on your cornbread. A hot skillet starts to cook the batter instantly and doesn't give the batter a chance to absorb the cooking oil in the skillet, thereby preventing the bread from sticking to the skillet. My mom always said one of the worst sins a cook could possible commit was pouring cornbread batter into a cold skillet! (It got yer head thumped, too!)

This next recipe for cornbread is one that I've had the pleasure of enjoying all of my life. My mom could probably have mixed up a batch of this in her sleep. She told me she learned this one from her mother, probably around 1922 or 1923, when she was 10 or 11 years old. Bring the oldest of eight children in her family, she learned to cook at an early age, as was the custom of my Ozark Mountain homeland, back then. Mom always called this:

Old-Fashioned, Rich Buttermilk Cornbread

1 cup flour
1 cup corn meal
4 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. baking soda (omit if you use regular milk)
1 large egg
1 1/2 cups buttermilk (or 1 1/4 cups regular milk)
4 TBS. melted butter or oil
Mixdryingredients together.
Beat egg, add milk, beat; add oil and beat. Mix in dry ingredients.
Pour into pre-heated 10" skillet.
Cook 20-25 minutes at 425°.

You take a piece of this about the size of an elephant's ear, cover it with beans, and buddy you talk about gettin' in it up to my elbows! And then for dessert, there ain't nothing better than a big wedge of this bread properly buttered and covered with honey or good ol' sorghum molasses! Wow! I'll guarantee that you won't need super glue to keep yer britches up when you eat good ol' vittles like this! (Sure beats tree bark or algae or whatever those skinny clothes swappers eat!)

Well folks, that's it for this month's edition of the Bluegrass Kitchen. By the way if you want the best cornmeal ground right, here in the U.S.A., give the folks at Morgan Mills a call at 828-862-4084. You can order yellow or white meal. (I prefer the white, I think the flavor is better.) They'll ship the meal right to your door, along with the bill and you just send them a check or money

order. This is the best meal I've ever used. They just take the corn and grind it. They don't degerminate it, dye it, or add any chemicals like all of the commercial junk that's called corn meal. Do your health a favor and try it. It's the best you'll ever have, you have my word on that. You can write to them if you wish. Their address is: Morgan Mill, Rt. 2 Box 395, Bravard, NC 28712.

I'll tell you right now that the UPS will cost more than the meal, but its worth every penny of it!

Until next month when we gather around the ol'cook fire to share some good stories and vittles, may God grant you all peace and health.

Yer friend,

J.D. Chynes

Upcoming Bluegrass, Oldtime and Gospel Music Events

APRIL

April 1 & 2 — Rawhide Bluegrass Festival at Rawhide Western Town in Scottsdale, AZ. The linup includes Robin & Linda Williams, The Shankman Twins, The Bladerunners and several other bands. For information, call (480) 502-5600 or e-mail: bbhikku@azstarnet.com.

• April 1 & 2 — Family Spring Bluegrass Festival at the Iowan Moter Lodge in Ft. Madison, Iowa. Featuring: the Faris Family, the Lewis Four, Bob and Barb, the Sally Mountain Show and Bruce Punches and Daybrerak. For information, call 319-752-9541 or 573-858-4344.

• April 7-9 - Mesquite Star Springtime Bluegrass Music Festival at the Mesquite Star Casino, Mesquite, NV (70 miles northeast of Las Vegas on I-15). Featuring: the James King Band, the Bluegrass Patriots, Ron Spears and Within Tradition, Hwy. 52, the Marty Warburton Band, the Lampkin Family Band and Just for Fun. Sponsored in part by the Southern Nevada Bluegrass Music Society. For information, call the Mesquite Star Casino at 1-888-411-3729.

• April 4-8 — Two Rivers Bluegrass Festival at the Greene County Rural Events Center in Leakesville, Mississippi. Featuring: the Mason Chapel Choir, Stuart Family, Old 15 South, Fair River Station, Magnolia Travelers, Country Current, Harvard Family Bluegrass Gospel, Jones and Blue Rail Express, the Rarely Herd, White Sands Panhandle Band, Gary Waldrep Band and many more.

For information or tickets, contact Bertie Sullivan, P.O. Box 16678, Hattiesburg, MS 39404-6778 or call 601-544-7676.

 April 7 — Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek in concert, 8 p.m. at the Sebastopol Community Center, 390 Morris St. in Sebastapol, CA. Opening band will be Modern Hicks. Sponsored by the North Bay Area CBA. Tickets are \$12 for CBA members and \$15 general public; children 12 and under are free with a paid adult admission. Ticket order form on page 21 and are also available at People's Music, 122 N. Main St. in Sebastopol. For information, contact CBA's North Bay Activities V.P. Mark Hogan at 707-829-8012.

April 7-9 — Old Settlers Music Festival at Dripping Springs, Texas. From Austin, take Hwy. 290 West to Dripping Springs. Continue 3 miles past the Highway 12 intersection to the entrance of the Stone Mountain event. Featuring: Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Peter Rowan, Claire Lynch & the Front Porch String Band, Jim Lauderdale, and many more. For information or tickets, write to: Old Settlers Bluegrass Festival Inc., P.O. Box 28187, Austin, TX 78755-8187, call: 512-346-0999; fax: 512-346website: or 2705: www.bluegrassfestival.com.

April 8 — Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek in concert with the River City Boys, 7:30 p.m. at the United Central Methodist Church, 5265 H Street in Sacramento, CA. Cosponsored by the Sacramento Area CBA and the 5th String Music Store. Tickets are \$15

for public, \$12.50 for CBA members, Children 12 and younger are FREE with a paid adult admission Tickets are available at the 5th String or my mail from CBA's Sacramento Area Activities Vice President Bob Thomas, 8532 Cumulus Way, Orangevale, Ca 95662. For information, call Bob at 916-989-0993. There is a ticket order form on page 21 for your convenience.

• April 8 — Royalaires in concert, 7 p.m. at the Country Oaks Baptist Church, Bond & Bradshaw Rds., Elk Grove, CA. Love offering. Sponsored by the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association. For information, call 916-685-4019 or 682-9994. Mixed trio from Ohio singing southern gospel style.

• April 13-15 — Great Western Quartet Convention. Approximately 15 nationally known southern gospel groups per night in concert at the Sacramento Convention Center. First time in Sacramento. Phone 1-800-846-8499 for reserved seat tickets. \$25 per night or three days for \$60.

• April 15 — Four Rivers Bluegrass Gospel Show, 7 p.m. at the Four Rivers Culture Center in Ontario, Oregon. Sponsored by KSRV Radio with all proceeds above expenses to go to the "Leader Dogs for the Blind" which is a project of the Lions Club. In concert will be Bluegrass bands Tater and the Tots and Strings Attached, and the Jeffries Family Gospel Band. For information or tickets, call 1-208-549-1049 or 1-208-355-2345.

• April 15 - 19th Annual Blue-

Upcoming Bluegrass Old-time & Gospel Events

Gontinued from B13
grass Music Jamboree a the
Middle School Auditorium in
Kahoka, MO. Featuring: The
Sally Mountain Show, Bob &
Barb, the Bluegrass Addiction,
Bluegrass Traditions, and
moare. For information, call
573-853-4344.

- April 15 Bluegrass Gospel Jamboree and Pie Social at the First Baptist Church of Denver, CO. Sponsored by the Colorado Bluegrass Music Society. Music by Close Ties, Ron Spears and Within Tradition, and the Harvesters. For information or tickets, call 710-534-0996 or E-mail: CBMS@banjo.com
- April 21 Barry & Annie Ernst and their band Ain't Misbehavin' CD release party. An evening of acoustic swing, bluegrass & more from 8-11 p.m. at Deer Park Villa in Fairfax, CA. They will be featuring songs from their newly released album "Run To Love""as well as western swing favorites, bluegrass, and eclectic acoustic offerings. Dinner Buffet. Cover: \$3/5. Call 456-8084 for further information. Visit www.morningglory music.com to hear music samples from "Run To Love."
- April 22 Western Bluegrass Gospel Fireside Round-up at Fireside Village on Hwy. 89 in Lasson National Forest, Hat Creek, CA. Featuring The Circuit Riders and friends. For information, call Jack at Fireside Village at 530-335-4505 or the Sound Room at 530-260-1670. Hat Creek is on Highway 89, an hour east of Redding, and North west of Susanville. The host band is the Circuit Riders and there will be an open mic with signups to play some gospel bluegrass. There are two Good Sam Club approved RV parks nearby; the Hat Creek Hereford Ranch RV Park and Camp Ground, call 877-459-9532 for information or reservations; and Rancheria RV Park at 800-346-3430.
- April 27-30 Merlefest 2000 on the campus of Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Tentative line-up includes: Doc Watson, the Freight Hoppers, Chesapeake with Tony Rice, Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals, John Cowan Band, and many more. For tickets and information, write to Merlefest, P.O. Box 1299, Wilkesboro, NC 28697-1299; phone 800-343-7857;

FAX336-838-6277; or visit their web site at: www.merlefest .org.

• April 28-30—California Bluegrass Association Spring Campout at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Camping, jamming and catching up with your Bluegrass family. Bring your family, friends and instruments for a great relaxing weekend. Camping fees are \$15 for RVs and \$7 for tents per night. For information, call Bob Crowder at 530-671-6735.

MAY

- May 5 14th Annual Santa Cruz Bluegrass Fair, presented by Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society (NCBS/SCBS) from noon to 5 p.m. on the Duck Pond Stage in San Lorenzo Park, Santa Cruz, CA. Featuring: Crooked Jades (San Francisco), Harmony Grits (Santa Cruz), Highway One (Santa Cruz), and Sidesaddle & Co. (Hollister). Free Admission. For further information, contact Lisa Burns at 650-964-452, or via e-mail at lisaonbass @aol.com. For more information on the NCBS/SCBA, visit their website at www.bluegrasssociety.org.
- May 11-14 20th Annual Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver Bluegrass Music Festival on Denton Farm Park in Denton, NC. Featuring: Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Appalachian Trail, Blue Highway, The Osborne Brothers, and more. For information or tickets, contact Denton Farm Park, 1366 Jon Elliott Rd., Denton NC 27239; call 336-859-2755 or 3663; or e-mail: manager@threshers.com.
- May 12-14 Ortig Bluegrass Festival at the Soldier's Home in Ortig, WA. For information, call Jim Creamer at 425-227-7739.
- May 12-14 Camp Rude Mother's Day Bluegrass Festival, Parkfield, CA. Featuring: Chris Jones and the Night Drivers, Witcher Brothers, Lost Highway, Hwy. 52, the Bladerunners, Compost Mtn. Boys, Lonesome Road, Tall Timber Boys, Bear Ridge, Grateful Dudes, Southside, Wild Sage and more bands to be announced. For information, call 559-592-6389 or check out their website at: www.camprude.com. There is a full page ad with more information on page A-9

 May 13 — Kathy Kallick Band in concert at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church, 505 E. Charleston Rd., Palo Alto, CA, 8 p.m. Sponsored by Redwood Bluegrass Associates. For tickets or information, call 650-691-9982 or visit their website at http://www.rba.org/

May 13—San Diego Folk Heritage Festival, San Dieguito United Methodist Church, Encinitas, CA. Sponsored by San Diego Folk Heritage. For information, call 858-566-4040

 May 13 — 4th Annual Harps in High Gear! concert, 7:30 p.m. at the Unity Church, 2467 Veneman Avenue in Modesto, CA. This year's event features a rare combination of harp performances by two solo artists. Ramon Romero will showcase his native tradition on the folk harp of Paraguay, and Tina Louise Barr will play high-powered solos on the Autoharp in her own style which links the traditional instrument with updated style and dynamic performance. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For information, call 209-480-

 May 19-21 — Mariposa Bluegrass Festival, at the Mariposa County Fairgrounds, Mariposa, CA. Featuring: Mountain Heart, winners of the 1999 IBMA Emerging Artist award; Continental Divide, The Fox Family, Kathy Kallick Band, Ron Spears and his newly-constituted "Within Tradition", the Foothillbillys, The David Thom Band, and Mountain Laurel. Tickets can be ordered from the ad appearing in this issue of the Breakdown, or by calling (800) 903-9936. Kids 16 and under are FREE with a paying adult, and a 3-day pass includes an all-you-can-eat country breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings. The festival has on-site camping, jamming, workshops and children's activities, along with a variety of food and craft vendors.

• May 21 — 40th Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest at at Paramount Ranch in Agoura Hills, California. 120 contestants and 5000 visitors are expected to attend this to this event. Many past winners will be coming back to visit and three professional bands will appear. There are 4 stages of various song and dance, food, dancing and lots of jamming in the Old Western Town streets. For further informa-

tion, call the Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest Information Hotline at (818) 382-4819; email: info@topangabanjo fiddle.org, or visit their website at: http://www.topangabanjo fiddle.org

• May 25-27 — Coon Creek Music Festival at the Ohio-Kentucky Campground in Berea, KY. Featuring: Dale Ann Bradley and Coon Creek, IIIrd Tyme Out, James King Band, the Osborne Brothers and more. For information or tickets, write to Coon Creek Music Festival, 312 Angel Road, Berea, KY 40403; call 606-986-1194 or 606-986-2523; or email: cooncreekmusic@zeus.chapell.com. For camping reservations, call 606-986-1150.

• May 25 - 28 — Ralph Stanley's 30th Annual Memorial Bluegrass Festival at the Hills of Home Park in Coeburn, VA. Featuring: Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, Jimmy Martin, the Lewis Family, James King, Ricky Skaggs, Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver, Larry Sparks, Melvin Goins and more. For information, call 520-768-5819.

• May 25-29 — Strawberry Spring Music Festival at Camp Mather near Yosemite, CA. Featuring: Ray Wytie Hubbard, Norman Blake, John Cowan Band, Mike Henderson and the Bluebloods, the Nashville Bluegrass Band, Moxy Fruvos, Buddy and Julie Miller and more. For tickets or information, contact Strawberry Music Festivals, P.O. Box 565, Sonora, CA 95370; phone 209-533-0191; or visit their web site at: www.strawberrymusic.com.

• May 26-28—Route 66 Worlds of Music Festival at Snyder's Park in Halltown, Missouri. For information or tickets, contact Neal or Mary Backues, Bluegrass World Music, Inc. P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102; phone 573-636-0536 or e-mail: neal@bluegrass world.com.

May 27 — Monumental Fiddling Championship at Homestead National Monument of America in Beatrice, Nebraska. Fiddle contests in two divisions with cash prizes and trophies for winners. For information, write to Superintendent, Homestead National Monument of America, 8523 West State Highway 4, Beatrice, NE 68310-6743 or call 402-223-3514.

JUNE

- June 8 10 Pony Express Worlds of Music Festival at the Antique Car and Tractor Park, Lathrop, Missouri. For information or tickets, contact Neal or Mary Backues, Bluegrass World Music, Inc. P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102; phone 573-636-0536 or e-mail: neal@bluegrass world.com.
- June 13 18 34th Annual Bill Monroe Memorial Bluegrass Festival at the the Bill Monroe Memorial Music Park & Campground in Bean Blossom, Indiana. Featuring: Jimmy Martin, Tom T. Hall, Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Jim & Jesse & the Virginia Boys, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver and many more. For further information, call (800)-414-4677 or (812) 988-6422.

• June 14-18—Steve Kaufman's Banjo Kamp at Maryville College in Maryville, TN. Instructors include: Terry Baucum, Dennis Caplinger and Murphy Henry. For information or reservations, contact Steve Kaufman, P.O. Box 1020, Alcoa, TN 37701; call 800-FLATPIK; FAX: 423-982-3808; or e-mail: Steve@Flatpik.com.

• June 14-18—Steve Kaufman's Mandolin Kamp at Maryville College in Maryville, TN. Instructors include: Carlo Aonzo, Butch Baldassari, Alan Bibey and John Moore. For information or reservations, contact Steve Kaufman, P.O. Box 1020, Alcoa, TN 37701; call 800-FLATPIK; FAX: 423-982-3808; ore-mail: Steve@Flatpik.com.

• June 15, 16, 17 & 18 — 25th Annual CBA Father's Day **Weekend Bluegrass Festival** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California. An outstanding All-Star lineup including: IIIrd Tyme Out, California (reunion), J.D. Crowe and the New South, the Fox Family, the James King Band, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Lost and Found, the Reno Brothers, the Sand Mountain Boys, the Bluegrass Patriots, Country Ham, Kids on Bluegrass, Lost Highway, Rarely Herd, Mountain Heart and MORE! On-site camping included in all 3 and 4 day tickets. Advance camping opens Monday, June 12 - \$15 per unit per night. Advance Tickets now on sale through June 5, 2000. For information and a ticket mail order blank,

Upcoming Bluegrass Old-time & Gospel Events

please see the full-page ad ion page A-13. Credit card ticket sales (no member discounts) can be purchased on the internet at: www.TicketWeb. com. Tickets also available at the 5th String Music Store in Berkeley, 5th String Music Store in Sacramento, the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce and all BASS Ticket outlets.

 June 16-18 — Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Telluride, CO. Artists include: Sam Bush Band, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Bruce Hornsby, David Grisman Quintet, John Cowan Band, Lonesome River Band, Longview, Peter Rowan, Seldom Scene, and more. For tickets or information, contact Planet Bluegrass, 500 West Main, Lyons, CO80540; phone 800-624-2422; FAX 303-823-0849: e-mail: Planet@Blue grass.com; or visit their web site at: www.bluegrass.com.

 June 16-18—Huck Finn Country and Bluegrass Jubilee at Mojave Narrows Regional Park in Victorville, CA. Featuring: Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, the Reno Brothers, J.D. Crowe and the New South, the Hat Band, Julie Wingfield and more to be announced. For information, contact Don Tucker at 909-780-8810 or visit their web site at: http://huckfinn.com.

• June 19-24 - National Oldtime Fiddle contest. Weiser, Idaho. For information, call 800-437-1280 or Email: notfc@ruralnetwork

 June 18-25—Steve Kaufman's Flatpicking Kampat Maryville College in Maryville, TN. Instructors include: Stephen Bennett, Rolly Brown, John Carlini, Brad Davis, Beppe Gambetta, Steve Kaufman, John Moore and Bryan Sutton. For information or reservations, contact Steve Kaufman, P.O. Box 1020, Alcoa, TN 37701; call 800-FLATPIK; FAX: 423-982-3808; or e-mail: Steve@Flatpik.com.

• June 20 - Prescott Chamber of Commerce Bluegrass Festival, in the Courthouse Plaza of downtown Prescott, AZ. For information, call 520-445-

• June 22 - 24 - Maple City Bluegrass Festival at the Huron County Fairgrounds, Norwalk, Ohio. Featuring: Jimmy Martin & The Sunny Mt. Boys, Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mt. Boys, IIIrd Tyme Out and more. For more information or tickets, call 419-5883503 or website: http:// www.accnorwalk.com/ ~bgshow/

• June 23-25 - Kate Wolf Memorial Festival at Caswell Vineyards near Graton. Featuring: Modern Hicks, Cyrus Clarke & Nina Gerber, Patty Larkin, Greg Brown & Garret Rogers, Tim o'Brien & Darrol Scott, Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum, New Grange (Mike Marshal, Alison brown, Darol Anger & Tim again), Chris Smither, Cheryl Wheeler, Tom Paxton. Call Cloud at 829-7067 for festival information.

JULY

• July 7-9 - 7th Annual Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival at Bolado Park in Hollister, CA. Sponsored by the SCBS/NCBS. Bands performing include: Batteries Not Included, Birch Lake Ramblers, Dirt Clods, Foggy Mountain Jam, Highway One, Kids on Stage, Mr. Banjo and the Lonesome Wailers, Sidesaddle & Co., and more. For information or tickets, write to NCBS/ SCBS, P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846; call 831-479-4634; e-mail: ncbsgof@juno.com or visit their website at: www.scbs.org.

• July 7-8 - Norbest Birch Creek Bluegrass Festival at Birch Creek Ranch, 2 miles South of Fountain Green, UT. For information, call 435-445-3378 or visit their website at www.birchcreek.com.

• July 7-9-11th Annual Bitterroot Valley Bluegrass Festival at the Ravelli County Fairgrounds in Hamilton, MT. Featuring: Front Range, the Grasshoppers, Out of the Blue, Mike and Tari Conroy and others. For information or tickets, contact Mark at 406-363-4444 or e-mail: maik@montananet.com.

• July 7 - 9 - Kalona Bluegrass Festival, Windmill Ridge Campground, Kalona, IA, (Formerly Wildwood Campground). Campground Information: Clarence & Kathy Gingerich, 319-656-4488. Festival Information: Paul Roberts, 319-683-2222. Featuring: Neal Backues and The Silver Cloud Tradition, The McPunk Brothers, Bob & Krisite Black, The **Great Bluegrass Herons**

Red Wing, Acoustic Mayhem, and The Rugged Cross. For information, e-mail ronton@5th season.net.

• July 13-16—Little Eagle Creek

Bluegrass Festival on the Rynearson Farm, 16840 Little Eagle Creek Ave. in Westfield, IN. Featuring: The Lewis Family, Vernon McIntyre's Appalachian Grass, J.D. Crowe & The New South, The Bluegrass Patriots and more. For information or tickets, call (317) 896-2985 or 896-5337 or 257-5391. • July 14-16 - Darrington Blue-

grass Festival, Bluegrass Ampitheater and Campgrounds in Darrington, WA. Featuring Lonesome River Band and many more bands to be announced. Festival offers a beautiful wooded setting bordering a river and facing White Horse Mountain, food concessions, open mike, gospel show, jamming, rough camping and more. For information, contact the Bluegrass and Country Music Makers Association, P.O. Box 519, Darrington, WA 98241; call 360-436-1179, or e-mail: dianna@darrington.net.

July 14 · 16 — Putnam County Bluegrass Festival at the Putnam County Fairgrounds in Cookeville, TN. Featuring: the Osborne Brothers, Blue Highway, Dr. Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Jim & Jesse & the Virginia Boys and more. For information or tickets, write to: James Arnett, 5021 Tompkinsville Hwy., Moss, TN 38575; call (931)258-4185 or e-mail: monroemusic @ hotmail.com.

•July 28-30 - Rockygrass -Rocky Mountain Bluegrass Festival in Lyons, CO. Artists include: Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Doc Watson, David Grisman, Nashville Bluegrass Band, and more. For tickets or information, contact Planet Bluegrass, 500 West Main, Lyons, CO 80540; phone 800-624-2422; FAX 303-823-0849; e-mail: Planet@Bluegrass. com; or visit their web site at:

www.bluegrass.com. • July 29 - Bowers Mansion Festival at the historic Bowers Mansion about halfway between Reno and Carson City, Nevada. Sponsored by the Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association. Featuring: Ron Spears & Within Tradition, Doodoo Wah, Mary Murphy, the Back Forty, Comstock Cowboys, Too Tall For Our Hair, the Northern Nevada Volunteer Orchestra and more. For information, call Vicki Hass at 775-822-6013.

• July 29 - 31 — Wolf Mountain Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Featuring Bob Paisley and Southern Grass, Ron Spears & Within Tradition and others, Advance tickets \$49 for all 3 days including camping. For more information, contact Dave Baker at (831) 425-2270, PO Box 91 Santa Cruz, CA 95063; E-mail: dbaker@briogon. com; or website: www.briogon .com/wolf.

AUGUST

 August 2-5 — Grant's 32nd Annual Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival in Salt Creek Park, Hugo, OK. Featuring in concert: Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, the Wildwood Valley Boys, the Lewis Family, Billy Joe Foster's Special Edition, the Gary Waldrep Show, Delia Bell & Bill Grant, Tim Graves & Cherokee, 5 for the Gospel, and many more. For information or tickets, write to: Bill Grant, Rt. 2, Box 74, Hugo, OK 74743 or phone 580-326-5598.

August 11-13 - Mount St. Helens Bluegrass Festival at Toledo High School in Toledo, WA. Sponsored by the Washington Bluegrass Association. Workshops, concerts, gospel show, children's activities, food concessions, jams, and rough camping on site. For information, contact WBA, P.O. Box 490, Toledo, WA 98591, e-mail: kentuckygirl@olywa.net; or website: http://www.scn.org/ arts/wba/home.htm.

 August 17-20 — Oregon Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival at the Hood River Fairgrounds in Odell, Oregon. Featuring: Larry Cordle and Lonesome Standard Time, Blue Highway, Bluegrass Etc., Lost Highway, the Grasshoppers, Within Tradition, Sam Hill, Great Northern Planes, Rainey Pass, Misty River, No Strings Attached, Lonesome Ridge and the Severin Sisters. Cowboy stars include: Riders in the Sky, Don Edwards and Steve Blanchard, with more to be announced. Camping is available on the festival sites and is included in all 2, 3 and 4 day passes only. Single day tickets will also be sold. Advance discount tickets are now available. For information, write to Dale Lawrence Productions, 1923 NE 134th, Portland, OR 97230; call 503-408-7692 or 503-261-9887; or email: dlspeakertrainer @msn.com. or visit their website at: www.GreatMusic Festivals.com.

• August 18-20 — Rockhome Bluegrass Festival at Rockhome Gardens Theme Park in Arcola, IL. Featuring: the Stevens Sisters, the Rarely Herd, the Chapman Family, Jeanette Williams & Clearwater, Lost & Found and more. For information or tickets, call 1-800-549-ROCK, or visit their website at www.rockome.com.

 August 18 - 21 — 28th Annual Festival of Bluegrass Music at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Kahoka, MO. Featuring: Karl Shiflett & Big Country, Goldwing Express, Don Wiley & the Louisiana Grass, Blue & Gray Pickers, and more. For information, call 573-853-4344.

 August 21-25 — Bluegrass at the Beach - 9th annual music camp with nationally known musician/instructors. For information, contact Stephen Ruffo at 360-385-6826 or email: ruffo@olympus.net.

 August 24 - 26 — Pony Express Worlds of Music Festival at the Antique Car and Tractor Park, Lathrop, Missouri. For information or tickets, contact Neal or Mary Backues, Bluegrass World Music, Inc. P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102; phone 573-636-0536 or e-mail: neal@bluegrass world.com.

LABORDAY WEEKEND

- August 28 September 3 -25th National Old Time Country Music Festival, Contest & Pioneer Exposition of Arts and Crafts at the Pottawattamie Fairgrounds in Avoca, Iowa. Performers now being sought. For information, contact Bob Everhart, NTCMA, P.O. Box 492, Anita, Iowa 50020; phone or FAX 712-762-4363.
- August 31 September 4 Strawberry Fall Music Festival at Camp Mather near Yosemite, CA. Featuring: Guy Clark, La Bottine Souriante, Laurie Lewis and her Bluegrass Pals, Penny Lang, Jesse Winchester, Tim O'Brien and the Crossing (featuring: Darrell Scott, Kevin Burke, John

Continued on page B-16

Upcoming Bluegrass Old-time & Gospel Events

Continued from page B15 Whelan and Danny Thompson) plus many more to be added. For tickets or information, contact Strawberry Music Festivals, P.O. Box 565, Sonora, CA 95370; phone 209-533-0191; or visit their web site at: www.strawberry music.com.

SEPTEMBER

- September 1 3 Laramie Peak Bluegrass Festival at the State Fairgrounds in Douglas, WY. Featuring: the Karl Shiflett & Big Country Show, the Grasshoppers, Turtle Creek, Wings & A Prayer, Homestyle Bluegrass, and more. For information or tickets, write to: Laramie Peak Productions, 222 Hwy. 99, Douglas, WY 82633, call 1-307-358-3909 10 E-mail: sweih@coffey.com.
- September 1 3 Route '66 Worlds of Music Festival, Snyder's Park, Halltown, Mis-

souri. For information or tickets, contact Neal or Mary Backues, Bluegrass World Music, Inc. P.O. Box 7170, Jefferson City, MO 65102; phone 573-636-0536 or e-mail: neal@bluegrassworld.com.

- September 8-10 Strait 2000 Bluegrass Festival at Clilam County Fairgrounds in Port Angeles, WA. Band contest, band scramble, workshops, contests and more. For information, call Robyn at 360-417-8878 or e-mail: robyn@ olypen.com.
- September 12-13-14-15-16 8th Annual Poppy Mountain IIIrd Tyme Out Bluegrass Festival on a 1000 acre farm in Morehead, Kentucky. Featuring: Blue Highway, Chapman Family, Country Gentlemen, Dave Evans & Riverbend, and many more. Morehead, Kentucky is approximately 75 miles east of Lexington. For information or tickets, write to

Poppy Mountain Bluegrass, 8030 U. S. 60, Morehead, KY 40351; call (606) 784-2277; email: poppymtn@mis.net; or visit their website at: < www.poppymountainbluegrass.com>.

- September 14-16—Little Eagle Creek Bluegrass Festival on the Rynearson Farm, 16840 Little Eagle Creek Ave. in Westfield, IN. Featuring: the Lewis Family, James King Band, Lost & Found, and many more. For information or tickets, call (317) 896-2985 or 896-5337 or 257-5391.
- September 14 17 29th Annual Walnut Valley Festival and National Flat-picking Championships in Winfield, KS. For information, contact Walnut Valley Association, Inc., 918 Main, P.O. Box 245, Winfield, KS 67156 or phone 316-221-3250.
- September 16&17 Julian Banjo/Fiddle Contest and Bluegrass Festival in Frank

Lane Park, Julian, CA. Sponsored by San Diego North County Bluegrass & Folk Club and Julian Lions Club. Featuring: Lost Highway, Julie Wingfield, Down the Road, Lighthouse, Silverado and more. For information, check out the Julian website at: http:/ /members.xoom.com/ julianbanjo/.

September 21-24 — California Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival (formerly Late Sujmmer) at the Amador County Fairgrounds in Plymouth, CA. Featuring Bluegrass by IIIrd Tyme Out, the Dry Branch Fire Squad, the U.S. Navy Band Country Current, the Reno Brothers, the Lynn Morris Band, Front Range, the Grasshoppers, the Sawtooth Mountain Boys, Great Northern Planes, Within Tradition and more. In addition, Cowboy stars for the California festival include the Sons of the San Joaquin, Waddie Mitchell, Steve Blanchard and more, plus Country Music legend, Merle Haggard and the Strangers will be performing on Thursday night only. Camping is available on the festival sites and is included in all 2, 3 and 4 day passes only. Single day tickets will also be sold. Advance discount tickets are now available. For information, write to Dale Lawrence Productions, 1923 NE 134th, Portland, OR 97230; call 503-408-7692 or 503-261-9887; or e-mail: dlspeakertrainer @msn.co; or website: www. GreatMusicFestivals.com.

September 29 — October 1 — Fallon Bluegrass Festival at the country fairgrounds in Fallon, NV. For information, call Vicki Hass at 775-882-6013. Watch upcoming issues for more information.



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Association, and mail payment and order blank to:

California Bluegrass Association Mercantile c/o Neale and Irene Evans 18 Waterfront Court Sacramento, CA 95831 For further information, please call: (916) 427-1214