



BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Vol. 26 No. 9

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

January 2001

CBA Mid-winter events include January 20 Gospel Concert and Presidents' Day Bluegrass Festival on February 18

2nd Annual Gospel Concert to feature Dry Branch Fire Squad and the Reunion Quartet in Fair Oaks



Dry Branch Fire Squad

Presidents' Day Bluegrass Festival to feature Bluegrass, Folk and Old-time Music in Sebastopol

by Mark Hogan

In what I hope will become an annual event, the Analy High School Theater will be the site of the 1st Presidents' Day Bluegrass Festival on February 18.

This one-day event is designed to give North Bay Bluegrass, Old Time and Folk music fans an opportunity to hear their favorite music, jam, and visit with friends in what is usually the Bluegrass festival off-season.

Headliners for the event will be singer, songwriter and Bluegrass Band leader Kathy Kallick and guitarist extraordinaire Nina Gerber. No strangers to Sonoma County, the duo will reprise the well-received shows they have done this past year at Kate Fest

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Kathy Kallick



The Reunion Quartet

Fans of Bluegrass and Southern Gospel music are in for an exciting and uplifting evening when the Dry Branch Fire Squad and the Reunion Quartet team up for the Second Annual Gospel Concert on January 20.

Bob Thomas, the CBA Activities Vice President is producing the event with a host of member volunteers and the assistance of the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fair Oaks at 4401 San Juan Avenue in Fair Oaks, Calif.

Based in the Sacramento area, the Reunion Quartet is well known in the Southern Gospel music circuit. Jack Pless, one of the founding members of the group, sings the baritone part

and manages the quartet. Other members are Ken Fraley - tenor, Greg Patton - lead, and Dan Sanchez - bass. The quartet has released three recordings - "I'm Redeemed", "Precious Friend" and their latest, "Welcome Home". You're sure to enjoy the Reunion Quartet's fine a cappella Gospel singing.

In over twenty-five years of music making, Rounder recording artists Dry Branch Fire Squad have become an institution in American acoustic music. Inspired by a fierce and uncompromising loyalty to the most traditional aspects of bluegrass, old-time and southern gospel music, Dry Branch Fire Squad is fueled by the musical vision and cultural commentary of Ron

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Bluegrass Breakdown
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California Bluegrass Association Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ Child(ren) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail: _____

Single Membership \$15.00
With Spouse Added \$17.50
Children 12-18 (non-voting) \$1.00 each
Children 12-18 (voting) \$10.00 each
Band Memberships (3-5 members) \$25.00

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

Type of membership:

_____ Single - 1 vote

_____ Couple - 2 votes

_____ Single or Couple With non-voting children

_____ Single or Couple with voting children

Children's names and Birthdates: _____

If Senior Citizens, please list birthdates: _____

Membership Total \$ _____

New ☐ Renewal ☐ Member # _____

Mail to:

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

Editor's Corner

by Suzanne Denison

Happy New Year! May 2001 be filled with music, love and laughter for you and your family.

The CBA is starting off the year with an exciting Gospel Concert on January 20 at the First Baptist Church in Fair Oaks, CA. The concert features the Dry Branch Fire Squad and the Re-

union Quartet. The Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association is cooperating in this effort with CBA Activities Vice President Bob Thomas and his volunteers. We hope to see you all there to enjoy some great Gospel music. There is an ad and ticket form on page 5 of this issue

for your convenience.

Coming on February 18 is a one-day, music filled Presidents' Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival produced by CBA's North Bay Activities Vice President, Mark Hogan. Featured bands are Kathy Kallick and Nina Gerber, High Country, the Crane Canyon Ramblers, the Crooked Jades and the Acme String Ensemble. The event will be held at the Analy High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA. Tickets are now on sale and there is a ticket order form on page 7 of this issue.

Other California events in January include the 2nd Annual San Francisco Bluegrass Festival at various venues (see the related article and ad in this issue for more information); a Redwood Bluegrass Associates concert — A Winter Night's YEOW! at the Cubberley Community Center Theater, 4000 Middlefield Rd. in Palo Alto, CA; and the Colorado River Bluegrass Festival at the Colorado River Country Fairgrounds in Blythe, CA. There is more information on all of these events and contact information elsewhere in this issue.

We are also busy making plans for the CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, June 14-17, 2001 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Festival Director Montie Elston is checking off items on the time-line and area festival coordinators are busy getting their preparations done to stay on schedule. If you would

like to be a part of the CBA's festival team, please call our new Volunteer Coordinator, Suzanne Sullivan at 805-239-0445 and let her know what you are interested in doing. Volunteers are needed in several areas of festival production and your help is always welcome. Suzanne can give the person responsible for different festival tasks your name and utilize your talents.

Speaking of the CBA's June Festival — please remember that Early Bird Discount tickets are only on sale through February 28, 2001. Order now and receive the maximum CBA member discount. After the first of March all member prices increase by \$5 per ticket. If you'll look at the ad in the center of this issue (pages 18 & 19) you will find a line-up of talent and a ticket order form for your use. If you have questions about ticket prices and the number members can order at the discount prices, please call David Runge at 707-762-8735.

Since winter has set in with a vengeance up here on Blue Mountain, there just aren't many things to write about our mountain home. It has been cold with frost most mornings and not too much snow. Most of the trees have lost their leaves after all of their fall glory and the squirrels are busy storing acorns from our oak trees for the winter.

The garden is now pretty bare and Don will be busy during his holiday break from teaching

Continued on page 4



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE

"GOT BANJO?" T-SHIRTS!!! A variation on the familiar advertising logo for bluegrass lovers. As worn by Ron Stewart, Steve Dilling, Kris Hare and other famous bluegrass stars! 100% cotton Fruit of the Loom Lofteez shirt available in white or black in M, L, XL and XXL sizes. Money back guarantee. \$18 postpaid. Check or money order to: Bill Evans, 510 Santa Fe Ave., Albany, CA 94706-1440.

LESSONS

BANJO LESSONS IN BAY AREA from Bill Evans. Rounder recording artist, *Banjo Newsletter* columnist and AcuTab author. Beginners to advanced; Scruggs, melodic and single-string styles, back-up, theory, repertoire. Lessons tailored to suit each student's individual needs, including longer evening or weekend sessions for out-of-town students. Over 20 years teaching experience. Albany, 510-528-1924; e-mail: <bevans@nativeandfine.com>.

BANJO LESSONS WITH ALLEN HENDRICKS of Hendricks 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.



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 January Board meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2001 at home of John Duncan in Sacramento. Call the CBA office or any board member for further information.

Please send all contributions and advertisements to:

Suzanne Denison, Editor - *Bluegrass Breakdown*
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or FAX to 209-293-1220

or e-mail cbawpn@volcano.net

Visit our Web Site at: <http://www.californiabluegrass.org>

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

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Music Quiz

by Carl Pagter

(Featuring questions and answers about Bluegrass, Early Country, Old-time and related music.)

1. Name of song sung by Jim and Jesse McReynolds (ages about 14 and 12) in 1941-42 at a high school talent contest in St. Paul, Virginia?
2. Instruments played by Jim and Jesse, respectively, at the talent contest?
3. Prize won in talent contest by Jim and Jesse?
4. Name of winner of same contest a few years earlier and instrument played?
5. Name of Jim and Jesse's grandfather, his instrument and his band (which recorded for Victor in 1927 at the historic "Bristol Sessions" in Bristol, Tennessee)?
6. Where and when were Jim and Jesse born?

Quiz answers on page 31

Gospel Concert

Continued from page 1

Thomason.

A native of southwest Virginia, Thomason founded the Dry Branch Fire Squad in 1976. To date, the band has recorded over twenty-one projects and performed at the most prestigious acoustic music venues and festivals in North America. Most bluegrass observers agree that Dry Branch's current line-up is one of its strongest ever: in addition to Ron Thomason on mandolin, guitar and lead vocals, other group members are Adam McIntosh on guitar and tenor vocals, Danny Russell on bluegrass banjo and harmony vocals and long-time band members Mary Jo Leet on rhythm guitar and harmony vocals and Charlie Leet on acoustic bass and harmony vocals.

Dry Branch Fire Squad has performed numerous times for

the National Council for the Traditional Arts and the Smithsonian Institution, and has toured internationally for the U.S. Information Agency. The band's all-gospel release "Golgotha" was chosen by the Library of Congress for its "Select List" of significant recordings of American music. "Memories That Bless and Burn", an all-gospel compilation featuring six newly recorded tracks, is the band's most recent *Bluegrass Unlimited* charting project for the Rounder label.

By bringing these two groups together in concert, the CBA hopes to make Bluegrass fans more familiar with Southern Gospel Music and the gospel music community more familiar with the exciting and emotionally moving genre of Bluegrass Gospel as performed by Dry Branch Fire Squad.

Tickets for the concert are now on sale for \$15 for the general public and \$12.50 for CBA and SSGMA members. Children under 13 are \$7 each. There is a ticket order form on page 7 of this issue for your convenience. Tickets will be available at the door. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. No refreshments will be served at this event.

For further information, contact Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or Patti Springstein of the SSGMA at 916-681-2356.

Editor's Corner

Continued from page 3

school getting it put to bed for the winter and ready for early spring planting—or at least those are my plans for his vacation! He may have other ideas.

The one thing this weather is good for is building a nice fire in the wood stove, sitting down with a good book and listening to some great Bluegrass music—so that's what I plan to do.

Until next month—Enjoy the music!

Presidents' Day Festival in Sebastopol

Continued from page 1

and in opening for Doc Watson at this same venue.

Old Time music fans will be treated to two different interpretations of this genre in the performances of the ACME String Ensemble and the Crooked Jades.

The ACME String Ensemble consists of Chris Carney on fiddle and mandolin, old time country music aficionado and local KRCB radio personality Steve Wharton on banjo, and guitarist Evan Morgan. Master of many guitar styles, Evan will be wearing his Old Time music hat as the band performs music from the 20's and 30's.

The Crooked Jades consist

of Jeff Kazor, guitar, Lisa Berman, dobro, Tom Lucas, banjo Stephanie Prausnitz, fiddle, and Martha Hawthorne, bass, with vocals shared by everyone. Their most well known recording project, "Seven Sisters", released early last year was the soundtrack for the documentary film, "Seven Sisters: A Kentucky Portrait", and has been followed by the release of "The Unfortunate Rake." Unlike many Old Time bands the Jades don't just rehash old obscure tunes, they write and perform in a way that clearly shows the degree of respect they have for the work of Uncle Dave Macon and the others that have exerted an influence on them.

who have heard the band on a regular basis in Petaluma will really come to appreciate their traditional Bluegrass sound in a concert setting.

Finally as an added treat look for Ingrid Noyes, formally of Noyes and More Noyes, to perform some of her original compositions from her recent CD, "Original Noyes." Larry Carlin will be your master of ceremonies.

Festival attendees are encouraged to bring their instruments but not their pets. Food concessions will be provided by the Sonoma County Folk Society. Parking on the Analy High School campus is plentiful with



The Crooked Jades

When it comes to straight-ahead Bluegrass, expect High Country and the Crane Canyon Band to deliver just that.

High Country is Northern California's oldest Bluegrass band founded in the 1960's by mandolinist and CBA life member Butch Waller. It's members over the years have consisted of a who's who of the top Bay Area Bluegrass players currently consists of Larry Cohea on banjo, Tom Bekeney on fiddle, Jim Minton on guitar, and Glen Daukin on bass.

The Crane Canyon Band, Sonoma County's only traditional Bluegrass band, can be found every Thursday night at the Willowbrook Ale House on Old Redwood Highway in Petaluma. Members consist of CBA life member Ed Neff on mandolin and fiddle, Gerry Szostak on dobro, Allison Fisher on bass, Avram Seigal on banjo. Wearing his Bluegrass hat is Evan Morgan on guitar. Those of you

spaces large enough to accommodate large rigs. For further information and tickets see ad in this issue or call 707-829-8012 or e-mail at hogiemoon@dellnet.com.

Upcoming North Bay Events

The 26th annual Cloverdale Old Time Fiddle Contest is January 27, presented by the Cloverdale Historical Society. First contest starts at 10 am. For more information call 707-894-2067 or email nancy.jehn@moraineassoc.com.

Other music happening in the area include a performance by Sonoma county's own Modern Hicks on February 9 & 10 at the White Barn, 2727 Sulphur Springs Avenue in St. Helena. Tickets are \$25 with proceeds going to the Silverado chapter of the American Red Cross. Show starts at 8:00 p.m.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for IBMA

hospitality

Dear Editor:

We recently attended the IBMA in Kentucky. On behalf of my husband, son and myself, we thank you for the warm hospitality shown us from the members of your association in your hospitality suites. The bands that were showcased were great! The soft drinks and snacks were refreshing to "just bluegrass listeners" — no talent, only ears and mouths that enjoyed.

We were impressed with the "howdy" of Mr. J.D. Rhynes and Mr. Solivan and Mr. Solivan's very talented son! Also a distinguished gentleman, always well-dressed and in a black jacket of your association. We enjoyed reading the Bluegrass Breakdown too!

Thanks again. Bluegrass Rules!!

*Sbeila, Jim & Steven Robbins
Bluegrass fans in Ohio
Lancaster, OH*

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank you for your hospitality at the IBMA! The California Bluegrass Suite was our favorite! Everyone was so friendly and we enjoyed the jamming by the "regular people".

We especially enjoyed 1946 with Aubrey Haynie, U.S. Navy Band Country Current with Frank Solivan, Jr. And the Cowboy.

If we ever get out California way, we will try to attend a festival. If I could vote, I would vote for J.D. Rhynes. Frank Solivan Sr. did a great job as "emcee"!

Thanks also for the CD, it's really good.

See you next year at 2001 IBMA, can't wait.

*Myrna and Gary Lunsford
Lancaster, OH*

Blythe mechanic

Dear Editor:

Any of you who are planning to go to the Blythe festival this year may want to take note of our experience while we were there last January. Our alternator went out on our pickup. With the advice of one of the festival officials we went to Dennis Taylor Automotive at 9300 East Hobson Way in downtown Blythe, where they squeezed us in and replaced the alternator within an hour or so. The charge was \$155 for the alternator and \$56 for labor. The alternator is still doing fine.

*Stan and Anne Dye
Napa, CA*

CBA Membership renewed

Dear Editor:

I just sent in my CBA membership renewal for another 5 years. By the time this one runs out, I will have been visiting the Nevada County Fairgrounds and

reading Bluegrass Breakdown for 18 years(!). Of course, it still feels like I left the South and came to California about last year sometime. I suppose this renewal is historic...my first as a

true "semi-native" Californian.

I want to thank the volunteers who do the heavy lifting for the CBA. I have enjoyed many magical musical moments because of their efforts. These folks

deserve our undying support for what they do.

See you in Grass Valley!

*Michael Hall
Palo Alto, CA*



DRY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD



CBA and SSGMA present

2nd Annual GOSPEL CONCERT

Featuring:

The DRY BRANCH FIRE SQUAD and The REUNION QUARTET

January 20, 2001 at 7:30 p.m.

at the First Baptist Church of Fair Oaks

4401 San Juan Avenue in Fair Oaks, CA

Sponsored by the CBA, in cooperation with the SSGMA.

Tickets are \$15.00 for the general public, \$12.50 for CBA members and for Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association members. Children under 13 are \$7.

GOSPEL CONCERT TICKET ORDER FORM

Please send me the following tickets for the Southern Gospel Concert:

- ☐ CBA member or SSGMA sponsor adult tickets @\$12.50 each
☐ General Admission adult tickets @\$15 each
☐ Child(ren) tickets @\$7 each

Total Enclosed \$ _____ CBA/SSGMA Membership # _____

Mail ticket order form, check or money order payable to California Bluegrass Association and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Bob Thomas
8532 Cumulus Way
Orangevale, 95662

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

For additional information, contact
Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or
Patti Springsteen of the SSGMA at
916-681-2356.

Doors open at 6:45 PM.
No Refreshments served at this event.

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

CBA Member News Notes...

Stolen Instrument Alert

by Suzanne Denison

On Nov. 21, the CBA office received a call from **Tommy Shewmake**, a CBA member and aspiring Bluegrass musician from Elk Grove, CA. Tommy is a 17-year-old mandolin and guitar player who has participated in the Kids on Bluegrass program during the past several CBA Festivals in Grass Valley. He is pictured below on stage in 1999.

Tommy was involved in a traffic accident at Grant Line and Waterman Roads in Elk Grove which damaged his pickup enough that it was not drivable. He locked up the pickup and camper shell and walked to a telephone to report the accident. When he returned, all of his instruments had been stolen from the back of the vehicle. He called to ask that a notice be published in the December Bluegrass Breakdown, which unfortunately had gone to press two days earlier.

I told Tommy that I would get the word out via e-mail as soon as I could and publish the information in the January issue. Tommy had already filed a police report and called all of the local music stores to report his loss.

The instruments stolen were:

- Gibson A-5 Artist Mandolin, serial No. 11269651 with a sunburst front and back in a black case with red lining.
- Cort Guitar
- Stradavarius copy violin
- Eastwood electric bass, black

Not only did I want to alert all of you to Tommy's loss, I also wanted to let you know how helpful Bluegrass folks have been. My e-mail to Bob Thomas, Eric Janson and Michael Hall has produced a barrage of responses.

Eric Janson of Bakersfield, CA, the CBA webmaster, posted the stolen instrument alert on our website (<http://www.cali-fornibluegrass.org>). I received an e-mail from the webmaster for Mountain Fiddlers (<http://www.chrisdavis/mtn-fiddlers>) who has also posted the alert on her website. In addition, I received an e-mail from Patty Jeffries of Bluegrass Unlimited offering to run a FREE classified ad in their January issue. I'd like to thank everyone who has re-

sponded so positively to this alert. To date, the Shewmakes have not received any positive news about the stolen instruments. Unfortunately, the theft was not covered by the Shewmake's insurance.

At their December 10 meeting, the CBA Board of Directors voted to set up a trust fund to receive donations to help replace Tommy's instruments. Donations can be sent to: Instrument Replacement Fund, c/o Kelly Senior, Treasurer, 5082 Warnke Rd., Paradise, Ca 95909. Please make checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association. I will report in future issues the funds raised and the final outcome.

If anyone has any information about Tommy's instruments, please call him at 530-647-2110 or contact me via e-mail at: cbawpn@volcan.net.



Tommy Shewmake

The Woodland Bluegrass Festival Lives On In Pictures!

By Larry Kuhn
folsomflash@yahoo.com

Thanks to Ron Milner for passing this along to me, but thanks mostly to Lohn Shephard for making the effort to set up a picture gallery of every performing band (by name) and every band scramble band (by name) who appeared on stage at the Woodland Bluegrass Festival last weekend, November 10-12th.

Some of the pictures are better than others, and some are

really good! If you were on stage at the festival, this is your chance to get prints of your 15 minutes of fame! Check out the webpage noted below. As you get acquainted with the website, you'll figure out how to navigate it, including zooming in on the initial picture presentations.

Also, while my mailing list is large, it doesn't include many band members in the bay area who might want to see themselves on their computer screens to document their presence at the festival! If you know of such a case, perhaps you could forward this to them.

The website is: <http://theglobe.zing.com/album/?id=4293363725>.

Folsom Gospel Jam session update

Thanks to Larry Kuhn for letting me know that I had incorrect information for the Folsom Gospel Jam sessions on page 34 of the December issue.

The monthly all Gospel jam sessions take place on the second Saturday of each month, from 6 - 10 p.m. at the Landmark Baptist Church, 609 Figueroa St., Folsom (one block south of Sutter St.).

Thanks also to Don Williams, an elder of the church, for alerting Larry to this error. For more information, call Don at 916 983-5638.

Band and Musician News Notes...

MacRae Brothers produce TV special

The MacRae Brothers (Matt Dudman and Jake Quesenberry) have some exciting news. In addition to playing the 4 dates in January listed below, they have just produced an hour-long cable access TV special with live (in studio) performances of songs, jokes and stories, plus interesting and informative interview footage, all filmed in November.



This program will air on various local cable channels in the Sacramento and Bay Areas over the next few months. Their CD "Live at the Freight" is still selling very well (second printing!) and is still available!

Upcoming performances are:

- January 6 — Willow Glen Coffee Roasting Company, 7:30 p.m., 1383 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA
- January 20 — 6:30 p.m. Live on KALW 91.7 - Peter Thompson's excellent Bluegrass Signal radio program
- January 20 — 8 p.m. at Cuppa UU Coffee House - Unitarian Church of San Mateo. 300 E Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA
- January 27 — Blue Rock Shoot, 8 p.m. at 14523 Big Basin Way, Saratoga. Shared bill with the Sibling Brothers.

For more info, call them at (530) 400-3872.

Joe Weed's "Swanee, The Music of Stephen Foster" to be released

Joe Weed, a monthly columnist for this publication (Studio Insider), is also a well known recording expert, record producer, musician and songwriter. His Los Gatos, California-based Highland Record company has earned an excellent reputation in the music industry.

Joe's newest production, "Swanee, The Music of Stephen Foster" will be released on January 13, 2001. This project is a departure from his instrumental albums, and Joe has produced "vocal tunes recognized for a century and a half by people around the world".

"I've loved the music of Stephen Foster since I was a little boy," says Joe. "My mother used to sing 'Camptown Races'. I'd ask her to repeat the funny verse about 'the black hoss stickin' in a big mud-hole' over and over again."

The CD features the vocal talents of Marty Atkinson, Sarah Elizabeth Campbell, Marti Kendall, Steve Kritzer, Laurie

Lewis, Mollie Mason, Tim O'Brien, Beverly Smith and Jay Under. The list of instrumentalists includes some of the country's best musicians, including Norton Buffalo, Joe Craven, Rob Ickes, Todd Phillips, John Reischman, Tony Trishka, Jay Under and Joe himself.

For more information about "Swanee, The Music of Stephen Foster" and other Highland Records products, write to P.O. Box 554, Los Gatos, CA 95031-0554 or call 1-800-354-5580.

The Frank Wakefield Band to make California tour in February

Renowned mandolin virtuoso Frank Wakefield and his band will be making a California tour during the month of February. Dates and locations confirmed as of press date are:

- February 16 — McCabes Guitar, Santa Monica, CA, 8 p.m. For information or tickets, call 310-828-8037.
- February 23 — Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley, CA, 8 p.m. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761.
- February 24 — 5th String Music Sacramento Show, at the Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. For information or tickets, call 916-452-8282.

For further information on the Frank Wakefield Band and upcoming gigs, visit his website at <http://www.mossware.com/FrankLesn.html>.

International News Notes... British Bluegrass magazine online

The December edition of *North West Bluegrass News* magazine is free and online now - no snags. We're trying to do something for Bluegrass - please help by checking it at: <http://www.NWBN.freemove.co.uk>

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

Continued from page 6

Good articles (with photos) / reviews / news / tabs / photos. If you like it please pass on the information.

Also try to visit the British Bluegrass Music Association at <http://www.BBMA.freemove.com.uk>.

Received via e-mail from: Derek Brandon, (Editor NWBN, Committee BBMA).



Record Company
News Notes...

Doobie Shea Records
news of artists/awards

Dan Tyminski's "Carry Me Across the Mountain" is listed among the 43rd Annual Grammy

Awards Entry Lists (Field 7, Category 39) as a selection for nomination as Best Bluegrass Album. Dan can be seen on Alison Krauss and Union Station's new "Maybe" video, which is in Hot Shot Rotation on Country Music Television (CMT)

Dan can be seen (and heard) in the up-coming Touchstone Pictures/Universal Pictures Coen Brothers' movie, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" featuring George Clooney, John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson, Holly Hunter, and John Goodman.

One of Doobie Shea's newest bands made their debut this year at the International Bluegrass Music Association's Annual Convention in Louisville, KY. The luncheon showcase, Fan Fest appearance and many informal showcases throughout the week

were a huge success for Montana's Kane's River.

The Grasshoppers recently released their new debut project on Doobie Shea Records (DS-4004). The album from the full-time, Idaho based band is filled with original, traditional feeling songs, and was produced by Tim Austin and Dan Tyminski.

In celebration of our 5th Year Anniversary, the Doobie Shea Essential Sampler (DS-9001) has just been released. The Sampler presents highlights from each of our previous twelve DSR releases.

Doobie Shea Records welcomes Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek to our roster of artists. The band will begin working on its' new release (tentatively scheduled for Spring, 2001) in December.

Rickie Simpkins (of The



Movie-Generated
Interest In Ralph

Stanley's Music
Gives Rise To *Man Of Constant Sorrow* Collection

To meet the interest being generated in Ralph Stanley's music by the new Coen Brothers film, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?," Rebel Records released *Man Of Constant Sorrow*, a collection of Stanley's classics, on December 26, 2000.

In the soundtrack to the movie, which stars George Clooney, John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson, and Holly Hunter, Ralph Stanley's voice is featured on the songs "Oh Death" and "Angel Band". The new Rebel

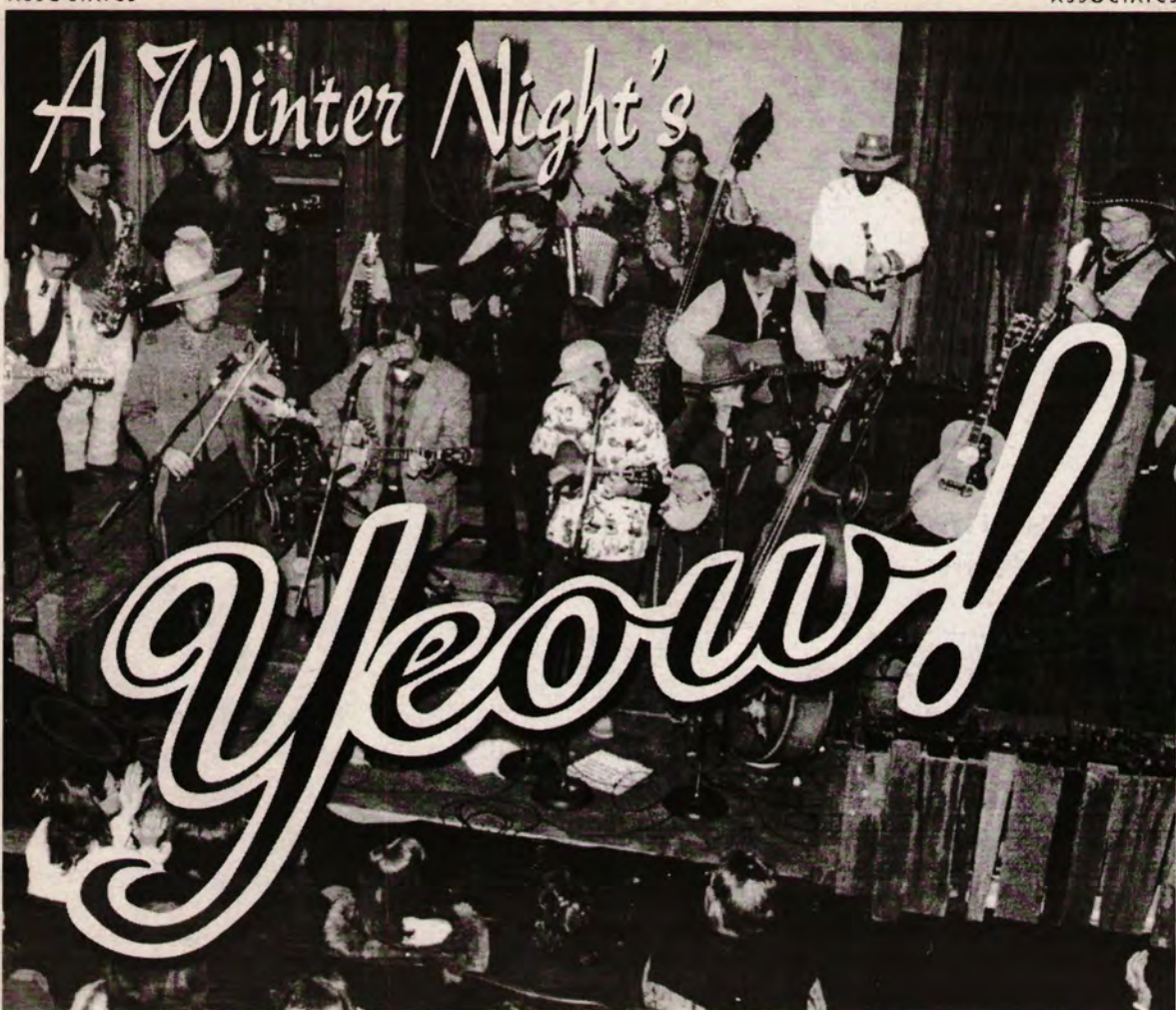
Continued on page 8

Lonesome River Band) will begin a solo project (also next month) with special guests Tony & Wyatt Rice, brother Ronnie Simpkins and Dan Tyminski.

Editor's note: You will be able to see and hear the Grasshoppers and the Lonesome River Band this June 14-17 at the CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA. See pages 16 & 17 of this issue for more festival information.



Presents



Saturday January 13th

A fun evening of bluegrass, western and old-time vaudeville, with Doodoo Wah, Cactus Bob & The Prairie Flower, The Foothillbillys, and Sourdough Slim with the Saddle Pals and Blackwood Tom.

Tickets: \$15 advance or \$18 at the door
Doors Open at 7:30, Show Starts at 8:00

Cubberley Community Center Theatre
4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto

Don't Forget...

Ralph Stanley

and the

Clinch Mountain Boys

Saturday February 10, 2001

\$17 in Advance, \$20 at the door

Cubberley Community Center

Auditorium

4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto



Mail Order Special: Yeow!, Ralph Stanley,

Perfect Strangers March 24, and a TBA in April. All for \$50.

Tickets are available from TicketWeb and at Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert St., Palo Alto. (see our web page at www.rba.org, or visit www.ticketweb.com or call 510-601-TWEB) Mail order tickets are available from Redwood Bluegrass Associates, P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846. Please enclose a business-sized self-addressed stamped envelope along with your check or money order and a note indicating what you want to order.

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES



Continued from page 7
collection includes his original recordings of those two songs, as well as early versions of "Man Of Constant Sorrow," "I Am Weary" and "Angel Band," which are performed on the soundtrack by Dan Tyminski, the Cox Family and the Stanley Brothers, respectively.

Man Of Constant Sorrow contains 13 selections, five of which have never yet been released on CD. Those tracks are "Oh Death," "I Am Weary," "Dream Of A Miner's Child," "Calling My Children Home" and "I've Just Seen The Rock Of Ages." The remaining cuts are "Goin' Up Home To Live In Green Pastures," "Rocky Island," "Old Richmond Prison," "Hard Times," "Little Birdie" and "Poor Rambler."

The 72-year-old Stanley, who in January (2000) became the Grand Ole Opry's first member of the 21st century, is working on a new studio album called *Clinch Mountain Sweethearts*. It will feature him in duets with Dolly Parton, Lucinda Williams, Iris DeMent, Maria Muldaur, Chely Wright, Gillian Welch, Valerie Smith and others. No release date has been set for this project.



Music Product News Notes...

AcuTab announces new video and book

AcuTab is delighted to announce the imminent release of its first artist video: "Sammy Shelor - a Demonstration and Analysis of an Award Winning Style." This 80 minute VHS presentation covers a lot of ground including discussions about tone, right hand technique and the importance of a fine instrument. Sammy also demonstrates a number of tunes he has recorded using the familiar split-screen format. The songs are played both up to speed and at a slower tempo. A tab booklet is included.

More details are on the AcuTab website at: http://www.acutab.com/shelor_video.html.

Mandolin legend Herschel Sizemore's first set of authorized transcriptions! Players as diverse

as David Grisman, Alan Bibey, Wayne Benson and Chris Thile have all noted Herschel as an important influence and a major figure in bluegrass mandolin. Herschel's style is both unique and accessible and he is considered by many as one of the most important traditional bluegrass mandolinists still alive and playing.

Included in this 70 page book are more than 30 solos for 13 tunes taken from Herschel's two great recordings, "Back In Business" and "My Style." Learn Rebecca, Grey Eagle, Amandolina and many others in the distinctive and influential Sizemore style. All tunes are presented in both tab and standard notation and were carefully proofed with Herschel to ensure accuracy. Left hand fingering and pick direction is included where indicated.

For more information, see the website at: <http://www.acutab.com/sizemore>.



Music Business book now available

Bands and individual musicians looking for help in their Bluegrass careers might be interested in purchasing a copy of *Moving Up In The Music Business*, subtitled: "Making Musical Dreams Come True: Empowering Strategies for Success in the Music Biz".

Written by Jodi Summers and published by Allworth Press, the book is now available. It includes information on "distribution and sales, marketing and promotion, media and publicity, band and tour management, music producing, concert production and technology, DJ's for radio and clubs, and online music ventures".

For further information on how to get a copy, call Leila Germano at 212-777-8395, ext. 13.



Radio News Notes..

"Bluegrass Signal"

schedule announced

"Bluegrass Signal" is broadcast from 6:30-8:00 pm on KALW

(91.7 FM) in the S.F. Bay Area. Producer/host Peter Thompson welcomes comments and suggestions: bgsignal@worldnet.att.net or P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA 94620.

January and February features include:

- January 6: New Year's Grab Bag: musical previews, new releases, old favorites, live recordings, and absolutely no resolutions. Special segment on the music from the new film, "O Brother Where Art Thou?"

- January 13: A profile of Sierra Records, California's largest purveyors of bluegrass, with music by the Kentucky Colonels, Clarence White, Muleskinner, Richard Greene, the Fox Family, Bluegrass Etc., and others.

- January 20: The MacRae Brothers play old-time "brother duets" live in the KALW studio; in addition, more classic recordings that didn't make it on last month's "Get Acquainted Show" are featured.

- January 27: Musical previews of the San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time

Music Festival, held February 2-10 at a number of area venues. Performers include Ralph Stanley, Peter Rowan, Any Old Time (reunion), Kathy Kallick Band, John Reischman & the Jaybirds, and many others.

- February 3 & 10: We Ain't Broke ... but it is time for another couple of Fund Drive Specials. Great music, great thank-you gifts, and great support from you at 1-800-KALW-917.

- February 17: Those Thrilling Days Of Yesteryear: co-host Todd Grayck selects and presents live bluegrass recordings from the 1950s, featuring classic music by the Stanley Brothers, Bill Monroe, Reno & Smiley, Jimmy Martin, and others.

- February 24: Musical previews of the California Bluegrass Association Bluegrass Festival, held during Father's Day weekend at Grass Valley. The deadline for "Early Bird" tickets (at special prices) looms, so it's a good time to listen to Longview, Good Ol' Persons (reunion), Lynn Morris Band, James King Band, Lonesome River Band, Seldom Scene, and other noteworthy participants.

Upcoming Performance News Notes...

January "Bluegrass Gold" to feature the Rowan Brothers and Keystone Crossing

On Tuesday, January 16 at 8:30 p.m. the next edition of the monthly bluegrass series Bluegrass Gold will take place at the Sweetwater in Mill Valley. The show is produced by Larry Carlin and Carlone Music. This show will feature two duos who will be sharing the night — one real brother duo and one that sings the songs of the brother duos from the early days of bluegrass music.

In the late 60s Chris and Lorin Rowan began singing bluegrass on stage together at the Club 47 folk music club in Cambridge, MA. They learned harmony from brother duo acts such as the country rooted Louvin Brothers, bluegrass greats the Stanley Brothers, and pop act the Everly Brothers. In the early 70s, David Grisman produced their first duo album on Columbia Records, on which Jerry Garcia played steel guitar.

Through the years they've also recorded trio albums with older brother Peter Rowan, featuring many of their own original songs. Lorin's song, "Soldier of the Cross," is the title cut of Ricky Skaggs' recent bluegrass/gospel CD. For this show at the Sweetwater they will sing classic brother duo songs as well as their own originals.

Keystone Crossing is Marin County's favorite country/bluegrass duo who sing the songs of the Delmore, Louvin, and Everly Brothers. They met at the Sweetwater in 1995 at a show by Peter Rowan. They have been performing at Sweetwater for years as well as at other venues around the Bay Area. They are not real brothers.

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

Dry Branch Fire Squad Kicks Off 25th

Anniversary Year with January California Tour

It's hard to believe that it has been almost twenty-five years since mandolin player Ron Thomason first stepped out onto a festival stage as the band leader of a group with the very strange name of "Dry Branch Fire Squad" and muttered his very first "Told you that to tell you this." Through these years, bluegrass has seen its progressive and traditional phases, as well as its brushes with massive popularity along with some periods of relative obscurity. Standing apart from whatever the bluegrass trend of the year might be, Ron Thomason and Dry Branch Fire Squad remain true to their musical vision, adhering to an archly conservative and traditional musical approach mixed with stories and humor that have earned the band the reputation of being the most entertaining group in bluegrass music.

Northern California audiences are in for a treat when Rounder recording artists Dry Branch Fire Squad kick off their 25th anniversary year with five northern California performances in January, including a Saturday, January 20th concert in Fair Oaks sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association (complete tour information is at the conclusion of this article).

In a cover story on the band in the July, 2000 issue of Bluegrass Now magazine, Nancy Cardwell describes best what Dry Branch Fire Squad is all about: "It's old-time vocals shouted out with honesty and conviction - rough edges proudly showing, breathtakingly quick instrumentals that bring to mind free-spirited wild horses, Ron Thomason's biting satire and wry political commentary, hauntingly moving a capella gospel songs, pure unadulterated old-time religion set to mountain music. This is the Dry Branch Fire Squad."

As West Coast audiences have learned, Dry Branch Fire Squad is also about much more: there is also the incomparable

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES



stories and humor of Ron Thomason - stories that are in turn hilarious and poignant, satirical and thought provoking, side splitting and tear filled. As Ron told Bluegrass Now, "The culture that gave rise to bluegrass is gone. Bluegrass has moved away from [that earlier era], yet the lyrics, the tunes, are very indicative of it. I believe our responsibility is to educate. I try to do it in the least painful way, but I feel very strongly about it...in bluegrass, we have a responsibility to inform people what's going on. What does this mean, where does it come from, how did it get to where it is now?"

In some cases, Ron will relate the words and experiences of a song such as "Jesus On The Mainline" to his southwest Virginia childhood memories of the arrival of electric power. In other cases, a parallel might be established between the latest current political drama and a folk song that's over 100 years old. This relationship of story to song is what grabs audiences and makes every Dry Branch Fire Squad concert a memorable event for both audience and musicians alike. Other group members include Mary Jo Leet on rhythm guitar and vocals, Charlie Leet on acoustic bass and harmony vocals, Adam McIntosh on lead guitar and harmony vocals and Danny Russell on banjo and harmony vocals.

Dry Branch Fire Squad has been a featured band at three Father's Day Bluegrass Festivals in the last decade and also headlined the Strawberry Music Festival in 1999. Their most recent California appearance was at the September, 2000 at the Plymouth Bluegrass and Cowboy Music Festival.

Their 1999 Rounder all gospel compilation "Memories That Bless and Burn" will be followed up in the spring of this year with a new studio project titled "Hand Hewn." The band's second Rounder live recording will be recorded in the Boston area in April.

The upcoming 2001 California tour offers several opportunities to catch the band in small, intimate settings, as the San Jose, Berkeley and Sausalito venues all allow close interaction between audience and musicians. It is here that the band's magic

works best. Below is the band's complete California itinerary:

• Wednesday, January 17: San Jose, CA, Espresso Garden and Café, 814 South Bascom Ave., 6 and 8:30 pm shows. Co-sponsored by the Northern California Bluegrass Society. Tickets: \$20 advance/\$22 at the door. For ticket reservations and information: 408-298-0808 or

510-528-1924. Dinner service with soups, salads and sandwiches begins at 5 pm and will stop at the beginning of the 6 pm show. Desserts available at the second show.

• Thursday, January 18: Berkeley, CA, The Freight and Salvage Coffeehouse, 1111 Addison St., 8 pm. Tickets \$16.50 advance/\$17.50 at the door. For ticket reservations

and information: 510-548-1761 or www.thefreight.org.

• Friday, January 19: Palo Cedro, CA (9 miles east of Redding), Millville Grange, 22037 Old Highway 44, 1 block east of Deschutes Rd., 8 pm. Tickets

\$12.50 in advance/\$14 at the door. For further information: 530-472-3065 or www.oaksongs.com.

• Saturday, January 20: Fair Oaks, CA, First Baptist Church of Fair Oaks, 4401 San Juan Ave., with

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Presidents' Day BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

A One-Day Music-Filled Family Event
on February 18, 2001 -- 1 to 8 p.m.
at Analy High School Theater
6950 Analy Ave. in Sebastopol, CA.



Featuring:

★ Kathy Kallick and Nina Gerber ★ High Country ★
★ Crane Canyon Band ★ The Crooked Jades ★
and ★ The ACME String Ensemble ★

Presented by the California Bluegrass Association
in conjunction with the Sonoma County Folk Society.

Analy High School Theater is located at 6950 Analy Ave. in Sebastopol, CA., six miles West of Santa Rosa in Sonoma County. There is plenty of parking and shows will be scheduled to allow plenty of time to pick and visit. Food concessions available, presented by the Sonoma County Folk Society. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m.

Ticket discounts available for members of the California Bluegrass Association, Sonoma County Folk Society, and Northern California Bluegrass Society with proof of membership.

General Admission: \$15.00 in advance - \$17.00 at door
Member Admission: \$13.00 in advance - \$15.00 at door

Presidents' Day Festival Advance Ticket Order Form

Please send me the following tickets for the Presidents' Day Bluegrass Festival:

____ Non-Member Ticket Price @ 15.00 each
____ Member Ticket Price @ 13.00 each

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP # _____

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____

Mail ticket order form and check or money order payable to California Bluegrass Association; along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Presidents' Day Festival, c/o Mark Hogan 3980 Monika Ct., Sebastopol, Ca. 95472. Tickets also available in advance at Peoples Music, 122 North Main St., Sebastopol, CA 95472.

For further information contact Mark Hogan at 707-829-8012 or email hogiemoon@delnet.com.

FESTIVAL FOCUS

14th Annual Colorado River Country Music Festival slated for January 19-21, 2001

The Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce has set the dates for their 14th Annual Colorado River Country Music Festival for January 19-21, 2001 at the Colorado River Country Fairgrounds, 11996 Olive Lake Blvd. in Blythe, CA.

Entertainers for the festival include: David Davis and the Warrior River Boys, Flint Hill Special, High Plains Tradition, Out of the Blue, the Schankman Twins, True Blue, Within Tradition and the host band, the Colorado River Boys.

NEWS NOTES...

Continued from page 9
the Reunion Quartet, 7:30 pm. Sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association and the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association. Tickets \$15 for the general public/\$12.50 for CBA and SSGMA members. For further information: 916-989-0993 or 916-681-2356.

- Sunday, January 21: Sausalito, CA, Sausalito Presbyterian Church, 112 Bulkley (across from the Alta Mira Hotel). 7 pm. Tickets: \$17.50 advance/\$19 at the door, available at Village Music, 9 East Blithedale, Mill Valley or send SASE to Don Koc, 508 Shasta Way, Mill Valley, CA 94941. For information: 415-383-8716.

In addition, the band is playing three shows in Washington and Oregon:

- Saturday, January 13: Enumclaw, WA, Enumclaw High School Auditorium, 226 Semanski St., 8 pm. Sponsored by the Enumclaw Arts Commission. For information and tickets: 360-802-0239.
- Sunday, January 14: Spokane, WA, Metropolitan Performing Arts ("The Met"), 901 West Sprague Ave., 7 pm. Sponsored by the Inland Northwest Bluegrass Association. Tickets \$15/\$12 members/\$8 under 12. For information and tickets: 509-238-4971.
- Monday, January 15: Portland, OR, St. John's Pub, 8203 North Ivanhoe, 7 pm. Tickets: \$13 advance/\$15 at the door through Fastixx at 503-224-8499. For information: 503-283-8520.

In addition, \$4800 in prize money is at stake in nine categories of competition. They are: Sr. Sr. Fiddle (65 & over), Senior Fiddle (50-64), Adult Fiddle (17-49), Junior Fiddle (0-16), Banjo, Bluegrass Bands, Specialty Instruments, Mandolin, Flat Pick Guitar, and Band Scramble. There are no entry fees for any of the contestants, however, advance registration is recommended. Forms can be obtained from the Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce.

Advance tickets are on sale through January 3, 2001. Ticket prices are: 3-day — \$18 advance, \$25 gate for seniors 60 and over; 3-day — \$20 advance and \$25 gate adults. Children under 12 are free when accompanied by an adult admission. Dry camping is available on site at a cost of \$10 per unit per day and advance reservations are accepted.

Besides the annual Music Festival, a number of other events take place from December through early February in nearby Quartzsite. Some of these include the Desert Gardens Gem and Mineral Shows, Cloud's Jamboree, Four Corners Swap Meet, the 35th Annual Pow Pow, Tyson Wells Arts & Crafts Fair, and a variety of others which are listed in the Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce's brochure.

For information on the festival or other area events, tickets, or contest entry forms, write to the Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce, 201 S. Broadway, Blythe, CA 92225 or call 760-922-8166.

Colorado River Bluegrass Festival set for Feb. 2-4 in Arizona

Blue Ridge Productions will be presenting the first Colorado River Bluegrass Festival on February 2 to 4, 2001 at near Bullhead/Laughlin, Arizona.

Featured entertainers are Lost and Found, the Schankman Twins, Lost Highway, Flint Hills Special, the Marty Warburton Band, the Witcher Brothers, Spring Valley Breakdown, Colorado River Boys, the Palmer Family, the Bladrunners, Out of the Blue, the Lampkin Family, the Cherryholmes Family, the Tylers and the Mountain Cloggers. Sound will be provided by Old Blue.

Promoter, Randy Gray is especially excited about the appearance of the Cherryholmes Family who are audience pleasers and present outstanding stage shows. "Sandy and Jere Cherryholmes have taught their four children traditional Bluegrass music and American values," he said.

Admission is \$10 per day for adults; \$3 per day for ages 7-17 and children 6 and under are free with a paid adult admission.

For further information or to order tickets, call Randy Gray at 520-768-5819 or visit the website at: www.coloradoriverbluegrassfestival.com.



Pioneer Bluegrass Days slated for February 17 & 18, 2001 in Arizona

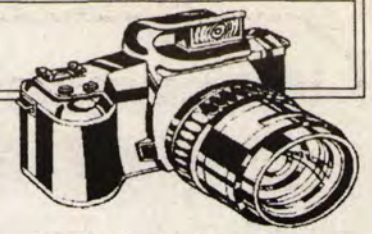
The Arizona Bluegrass and Old-time Music Association (ABMA) will present their 6th Annual Pioneer Bluegrass Days, February 17 and 18, 2001 at the Living History Museum in Pioneer, Arizona. Pioneer is located fifteen minutes north of Phoenix off of Highway I-17.

Featured entertainers include: Jim and Jesse & the Virginia Boys, the Kruger Brothers, Lost Highway, the Shady Creek Band, the Grasswhackers, Flint Hill Special, Jam Pack Blues 'n' Grass Neighborhood Band, and CC & Kim. AZ 2000 Champion bands: Green Sky, Clear Blue and Gold Rush will also perform. Special performances include a reunion of Front Page News and a Saturday night barbecue dinner show with the McNasty Brothers.

The festival also offers dry camping, jams, music workshops, kids activities, a working old western town, RV exhibit, and a Sunday Morning workshop service by the Christian Cowboy Association.

Admission is \$12 per day for adults and \$6 per day for children. Camping is \$5 per night per unit on Thursday through Sunday. Advance weekend tickets are now available through February 8, 2001.

For information or tickets, write to Candice Bebbler-Miracle,



8008 W. Tuckey Lane, Glendale, AZ 85303; call at 625-842-1102 or e-mail: Theabma@aol.com.



Colorado's 16th Annual Mid-Winter Bluegrass Festival Feb. 16-18

The Northglenn Holiday Inn and Holidome in Denver, Colorado will be the site of Colorado's 16th Annual Mid-Winter Bluegrass Festival during the weekend of February 16, 17 and 18, 2001.

Entertainers featured in indoor concerts will be Lynn Morris Band, The Isaacs, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Dan Crary, Little Ryan Holladay, Al & Emily Cantrell, First Impression, The Faris Family, High Plains Tradition, Bluegrass Patriots, Black Rose, Wing & A Prayer, South Wind String Band, and Close Ties. There will be special guest appearances by Bill McKay, Pat Carbone, Jacques Rickett and Judy Hageman.

In addition the festival will hold a youth "fiddle fest", the Great Rocky Mountain Band Scramble, workshops and more. The Holiday Inn offers an indoor pool and jamming in the Holidome. Both the Holiday Inn and the nearby Days Inn are offering special "Bluegrass rates" for festival attendees.

The festival is presented by Seaman Productions of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Advance tickets are now on sale through Feb. 10. Ticket prices are: 3-day pass \$45 and any 2-day pass is \$38 in advance. Tickets at the gate will be \$20 Friday; \$25 Saturday; and \$20 Sunday. There are discounts for advance purchase of individual day tickets as well.

For information or tickets, contact Ken Seaman via e-mail at: bluegras@verinet.com, phone (970) 482-0863 or visit the website at www.bluegrasspatriots.com.

For room reservations, call the Northglenn Holiday Inn at 303-452-4100 or the Days Inn at 800-874-4513 or 303-457-0688.



The Cherryholm family left to right are Skip (11), Cia (16), Sandy, Brody (12), Molly (8) and Jere. They will be appearing at the Colorado River Bluegrass Festival in Bullhead/Laughlin, AZ in February.

SAN FRANCISCO BLUEGRASS & OLD-TIME FESTIVAL

**FEBRUARY
2 THRU 11**

PETER ROWAN

RAYNA GELLERT & FRANK LEE

THE CROOKED JADES

**JOHN REISCHMAN
AND THE JAYBIRDS**

THE BLUEGRASS INTENTIONS

HIGH COUNTRY

TONY TRISCHKA

**RALPH STANLEY and the
Clinch Mountain Boys**

THE WAYBACKS

THE ANY OLD TIME STRING BAND REUNION

THE KATHY KALLICK BAND

WWW.SFBLUEGRASS.ORG OR 1-888-649-8101

A Week-Long Celebration of **Bluegrass** and Old-Time music!

also featuring

Sidesaddle & Co. • Jackstraw • The Dickel Brothers
The Stairwell Sisters • All Wrecked Up
stringbean • The ® Boys • The MacRae Brothers
The David Thom Band • Keystone Crossing
Crane Canyon • Dark Hollow Bluegrass Band
and many more bands...
plus, "Bluegrass On Film"

Advance tickets are available for the following shows in the
2nd Annual San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival:

Friday, February 2, 7:30 pm

**Peter Rowan
Rayna Gellert & Frank Lee
The Crooked Jades**

Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St., San Francisco
Tickets (\$17 adv.) available from BASS outlets, 510-762-BASS
or call (415) 454-5238 for more information.

Saturday, February 3, 7:30 pm

**John Reischman & The Jaybirds
The Bluegrass Intentions
Jackstraw**

Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St., San Francisco
Tickets (\$16 adv.) available from BASS outlets, 510-762-BASS
or call (415) 454-5238 for more information.

Wednesday, February 7, 9:00 pm

**Tony Trischka
Radim Zenkl**

The Last Day Saloon, 406 Clement, San Francisco
Tickets (\$12 adv.) available from TicketWeb, 510-601-TWEB
or online at www.ticketweb.com

Thursday, February 8, 8:00 pm

**Ralph Stanley
& The Clinch Mountain Boys
with The MacRae Brothers**

The Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison, Berkeley
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First ever Woodland Bluegrass Festival drew an impressive crowd

by Suzanne Denison

During Veterans Day weekend (Nov. 10-12) a brand new Bluegrass Festival was launched in the Sacramento valley town of Woodland, CA. Produced by Bob Thomas, and sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association and all of the bands who performed, the event drew a near capacity crowd.

The festival was held at the Yolo County Fairgrounds in a nice, heated building which offered good acoustics and an audience space which was adequate this year, but may prove to be too small for future festivals.

Concessions, coordinated by Larry Baker, were in the entry portion of the building and included arts and crafts, music-related products, CBA mercantile and membership, and a massage therapist. However, Larry's kitchen was the most popular of all. Larry and his staff cooked all

throughout the weekend. It really was too cold for tent camping, but many of us found that the local motels were plentiful and not very expensive.

Since I was in the membership booth on Friday evening, I didn't get a chance to see the bands who performed — Stone Creek, Western Lights and the Red Dirt Bullies; however I could hear them all and they were great.

On Saturday I was in the concert area and was able to enjoy all of the performances. I had a great vantage point since Don was in charge of the stage operation with the able assistance of Rick Owen. The bands who performed Saturday were Kids on Bluegrass, Past Due, Grass Menagerie, Bob & Ernie (Hoof Hearted), the Circle R Boys, the River City Boys, High Country, Mountain Laurel, and the Kathy Kallick Band.



New CBA members Tushar and Suchita Petar from India enjoyed the music at the Woodland Festival with their son. The couple found the new festival on the Internet and made a special trip to the United States to enjoy the music before taking their son to Disney Land.

Photo by Howard Gold



"Team U.S.A." left to right — Cliff Finch, Howard Kauffman, John Wahl, Dan Baker, Dave Bergeren and Gerry Szostak (not pictured) participated in the Band Scramble.

Photo by Larry Miller

weekend long — everything from breakfast to Mexican dinners and sandwiches in between. It was a real convenience to all of us who didn't want to leave the music long enough to visit a local restaurant.

The Yolo County Fairgrounds is an ideal site for a festival. There is plenty of parking and RV campsites as well as RV parking on asphalt. Fairgrounds personnel were very helpful and cooperative and even provided two additional buildings for indoor jam sessions

It was wonderful to see all of the talented children and teenagers on stage with some adults for back-up. The Kids on Bluegrass portion was organized by Esther Baker and the practice sessions and performance were excellent.

Throughout the day, the music was excellent. Past Due gave us an entertaining and enjoyable set with original songs, jokes and great instrumental breaks. I had not heard the new configuration of Grass Menagerie until this performance, and

was very impressed with the picking and singing of the young members, Phil Cornish, Ron Lauder, Eric Hao Gulf and Rich Ferguson, as well as the great fiddling of proud father Rick Cornish.

Bob James and Ernie Hunt (Hoof Hearted) performed traditional brother harmonies interspersed with folksy humor. The Circle R Boys, although a newly formed band, has the professional, tightly coordinated sound provided by band members, (Bob Waller, Steve Pottier,

Paul Bernstein and Josh Hadley) who have been performing in other Bay Area bands for over twenty years.

Closing out the afternoon portion of the program, the River City Boys gave a great demonstration of their brand of traditional and progressive Bluegrass music and Gospel songs featuring trio and quartet singing.

After the dinner break, the evening performance was kicked off by an outstanding set by High Country. Butch Waller and his band, (Butch Waller, Larry Cohea, Jim Mintun, Tom Bekeny, and Glenn Dauphin) gave us a wonderful example of why they have been one of the hottest Bluegrass bands in the Bay Area for the past 25 years.

Mountain Laurel, a Nevada City-based band, was up next. Band members Pete Siegfried, Doug Bianchi, Ken Nilsson, Rick Grant, and Paul Siese performed an excellent set which featured rock solid instrumental work with plenty of banjo and fiddle pyro-technics and vocals by the fine lead tenor voice of Pete Siegfried.

Closing the evening's schedule was the Kathy Kallick Band in the best configuration I've ever heard. Each member of the group has played Bluegrass for more than 20 years with the west coast's top traditional and progressive bands, and they brilliantly complement the extraordinary

singing and songwriting of Kathy Kallick. Band members are Kallick - guitar, lead and harmony vocals; Tom Bekeny - mandolin, fiddle and harmony vocals; Avram Siegel - banjo, guitar and harmony vocals; and Amy Stenberg - acoustic bass, harmony and lead vocals. Their set was enthusiastically received, and impressive in the material they chose and the enthusiasm with which they presented it.

On Sunday Batteries Not Included and the Green Brothers performed two outstanding Gospel sets which were well received and inspirational. I was particularly impressed with the beautiful voice of Toni Murphy of Batteries, as well as the group's vocal harmonies. The Green Brothers' performance of traditional songs was very enjoyable as well.

All in all, this was a great line-up of California Bluegrass bands and a very enjoyable weekend. The sound was provided by Paul Knight with the assistance of Doug Bianchi and was excellent. Doug is in the process of producing a CD of the festival performances which should be available in the near future.

In between the regular sets, Larry Kuhn organized Band Scrambles. In case you don't know what they are, musicians put their names into cans labeled with each instrument and the names are drawn at random. The

Continued on page 14

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Blue Ridge Productions



Woodland Bluegrass Festival



River City Boys -- left to right Rich Del Chiaro - mandolin, lead and tenor vocals; Steve Krouse and Dan Hernandez harmonize around the microphone on the Festival stage. Not pictured are Gerry Momola and Jim Notman.
Photo by Howard Gold

Continued from page 12
"band" then has about thirty minutes to get together and practice before they appear on stage.

There were some excellent bands who each performed two or three songs. Bands and their members were: First Band (Ken Eldridge, Don Timmer, Michael Maurier, Dennis Wozac and Keith Wiggins); Team USA (Howard Kauffman, Dave Bergeren, Dan Baker, Cliff Finch, John Wahl and Gerry Szostak); Emergency Exit (Keith Wiggins, Harold Crawford II, Caroline Disnky, Dennis Wozac, Duane Thompson and Monte Elston); Behind Closed Doors (Dan Baker, Rob Shotwell, Rudy Darling, Zeke Griffen and Lisa Burns); and Show Wristband (Dave Bergeren, Elena Corey Pate, Blake Shester, Don Timmer, Doug Bianchi and Barbara Ann Barnett).

One of the great features of the Woodland Festival was the

cooperation and assistance of the bands and other volunteers. Each band had a pre-festival task such as signage, stage banner, flyer distribution or mailing, name tags etc. or workshops at the festival. There was a great crew of volunteers who sold and took tickets, manned the instrument check room and provided security and information. Bob Thomas did the booking, planning and production, and his crew took over everything but the worrying which Bob kept for himself. A great job was done by everyone to produce this successful event.

Plans are underway to hold a second Woodland Bluegrass Festival on the same weekend of 2001. For more information about the festival, check out their website at: <http://www.geocities.com/woodgrass> or contact Bob Thomas at sacbluegrass@yahoo.com.



Mountain Laurel -- left to right Paul Siese, Rick Grant, Doug Bianchi, Pete Siegfried and Ken Nilsson performed a hot set and helped with the sound system.
Photo by Howard Gold



Kathy Kallick and Avram Siegel on the Woodland stage. Other members of Kathy's band are Tom Bekeny - mandolin, fiddle and harmony vocals and Amy Stenberg on bass, harmony and lead vocals.
Photo by Howard Gold



The Green Brothers (photo at left) are Robert Bowden, Skip Green, John Green and Jim Beeler. The band performed during the Sunday Gospel show at Woodland and were also responsible for the large banner over the stage.
Photo by Howard Gold

Harmonica Korner... especially for kids, beginners, grandparents, and

by Howard Polley

Season's Greetings and a very Happy New Year to all.

First things first. In November's column the statement about cross harp playing needs a short correction. The correct description of this playing position is second position, not third position as stated in that article. Thanks for your understanding in this matter and congratulations to those who caught the error the first time around.

Did I hear you correctly? You've received some Christmas gift money and you just can't decide how to use it (what a nice problem!). Should you be in the category of someone wanting to obtain a harmonica but for one reason or another just has not gotten around to doing it... now's your chance. Here are some suggestions for dependable, quality harmonicas for your consideration.

Harmonicas

The Hohner Company Marine Band model has been the best selling harmonica in the world for about one hundred years. It is made in Trossingen, Germany by skilled craftsmen and then shipped to customers all over the world. Suggested retail price has been around twenty-five dollars. It comes with a sturdy plastic case and sometimes a little instruction booklet. It has a bright, clear sound and is a favorite of amateurs and professionals alike. The MB model has had very few changes since it was first produced in 1896.

Another popular Hohner model is the Special Twenty, which is just a variation of the Marine Band. The major change in the Special Twenty is its plastic comb. (The comb is the part of the harp that meets your lips where the little square holes are). A plastic comb is a little more comfortable on the lips than the wooden comb claim many players. The Special Twenty retails for around twenty-eight dollars.

Another exciting newer model is Hohner's Big River Harp. The Big River Harp has met with a lot of customer approval. It has a plastic comb and the added attraction of having replaceable reed plates should that become necessary. In other words, if a reed gets fatigued you don't have to replace the entire harmonica, you can just buy a new reed plate and save a few

dollars. The Big River Harp sells for around sixteen dollars. A real bargain!

The final harmonica to consider at this time is made by Lee Oskar. Lee Oskar is a top professional musician, composer, re-

cording artist, and harmonica designer. Lee Oskar harps came on the market only twenty years or so ago. These mouth organs have met with wide approval throughout the planet. They are made in major or minor keys as

well as a special model called the "Melody Maker" for advanced players. Incidentally, Lee Oskar was the first manufacturer to produce harmonicas in minor keys. I personally have several Lee Oskar harps and I like them more



and more as time goes on. I've never had to replace any of them for breakdown of any kind.

Continued on page 18

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More about Harmony Singing

By Elena Corey

A few folks have asked if we couldn't talk via this column, more about singing harmony. We addressed this topic several years ago, but it may be time for a summary overview of the subject, as more and more people who used to sing melody are attracted to the very rewarding world of harmony singing. "Harmonics", found at strategic points on our instruments and the adjective "euphonious" both carry implicit messages about how pleasing the voicing of certain intervals together can be to our ears. Harmonic overtones provide the octave and the fifth-away tones most audibly; this happy happenstance reinforces our expectations regarding intervals that sound good together.

Reasons why people want to sing harmony often include such things as wanting to be able to provide dynamic contrast from a lone voice and wanting to get in on the fun of group singing. Motivations may even include the fact that many of us like to challenge ourselves in little things—and being able to find a harmony that is not already being provided sometimes calls forth our ambitious spirit.

The first step in learning to sing harmony is to become very conscious of the melody. Too often, after we've heard a song enough to be familiar with it, we relegate the melody to the background of our focus while we develop interesting arrangements and accompaniment enhancements with the bulk of our attention. Even given the probability that a lead singer will make a melody his or her own by tweaking it in small places, the melody of the song should be apparent to us. If it is not obvious, we have to take a back-step before we proceed with singing harmony on the song.

It is true that a few strong harmony singers may be able to absorb the melody the first time they hear it and to sing tentative harmonizing notes on a chorus without even knowing the song. But for most folks, acquaintance with the song is the first prerequisite, so know the melody. After the melody has been identified clearly, the next step is to consider the range of harmony your voice will accommodate for that

particular song—being sung by a particular singer in his or her particular key. In bluegrass circles it occasionally happens that a person who is used to being able to sing a certain part will find that the lead singer has pitched the song out of the range of the harmony singer. Dicker-ing over key choice may be acceptable, but it might not be—especially if the lead singer has some reason to sing a song in a given key—e.g. the chord progression is easier to play or that key shows off the extraordinary voice of the lead singer. So be prepared to seek your harmony part in relationship to both your vocal range and the key choice of the lead singer.

After you gather an idea about your vocal range and the song's key, you can see whether you'll be able to sing above the lead or want to find a close harmony in the same register just below the melody. If you are assigned a part, of course, you stick with that part, especially if someone else already has another harmony part. Doubling someone else's note, although it is not fatal, is usually considered detrimental to the total sound and should be avoided. Experience and close listening are aids to hearing the other harmony parts, so you can be sure you are singing a unique part.

If you are the only harmony singer for the song, it may not matter if you switch back and forth from tenor and baritone, weaving over and under the melody. Beautiful duets have been crafted by people who have essentially the same voice range and they intertwine their voices with first one singer hitting the higher intervals, then referring with the other singer. Notable larger groups, such as the Sons of the Pioneers, developed "range" assignments rather than parts for some of their songs. That strategy was explained to me as somewhat similar to zone defense rather than man-to-man defense in college basketball, in that if a note strayed outside a person's assigned vocal range-zone, another person was assigned to "catch" it. Contrastingly, the "man-to-man" assignment of parallel notes among the harmony singers is

found in most folk and traditional music.

Most bluegrass and old time singing has straight part assignments. Generally the tenor finds the first harmony note above the melody (which is frequently a 3rd above the melody note) and the baritone harmony part finds the first available harmonious note below the melody. These harmonious notes come from the triads of the chords being covered. Some bluegrass groups, e.g. Doyle Lawson's and also sometimes Dudley Connell, place the baritone an entire octave above its usual slot and feature a high baritone part. That allows very close harmony stacking, with both of the close harmony parts above the melody.

Bluegrass singing also frequently employs "suspensions" which include a harmony singer moving from a strong fourth interval above the melody back to a third, on a held note. Many people, in fact, associate these suspensions with bluegrass. Listeners have said that the "above the melody" interval stacking and the suspensions used in bluegrass contribute a sense of genuineness and transparency in the music that draws the ear and holds listeners in the grip of the emotions of the song.

How do you find these harmonious tones—how can you sing a note out confidently and know that it will sound good with the melody? This question is as common among folks just beginning to sing harmony as is the question "How do I know that the water will hold me up?" is among beginning swimmers. Time and practice will build confidence in your ability to hit the note you hear in your head.

If you don't hear any harmony notes internally, you may find the notes you seek on any musical instrument that normally can play chords, e.g. a guitar, mandolin, autoharp, piano or banjo. While you're at the stage of finding those notes you want, you may prefer to practice in the privacy of your own home, rather than at a jam. You can identify notes that sound good with a melody note by playing the chord that fits that melody note then singing first the melody note and then, alternately, the other notes

of the triad as you hold that chord. Take songs that you know well and practice this—one note at a time. Sound tedious?

A faster aid to progressing with singing harmony via the triad note identifying method is to use a tape recorder to record the melody and then sing the notes you've identified from the chord along with the recorded voice. As a child, I listened to Everly Brothers' tapes to help myself find the missing third part and supply it. Singing along with people who sing out, rather than those who sing tentatively, is also a great help.

The foregoing comments apply to the singing of tenor and baritone harmonies. But when we look at the vocal part relegated to bass singers, the picture changes. Unless your group sings a lot of gospel, your role as a bass singer may be pretty limited. The bass singer doesn't get to meander around, weaving harmonies around the melody like other singers may. The bass

is assigned the minimal, yet important, role of providing the tonic or "one" note of most of the chords the other singers explore in their intervals. Occasionally a bass singer can walk a phrase upward or downward to the tonic note of the next approaching chord, but mostly he needs to provide the steady and sturdy foundation for all the other notes to stack themselves upon.

A fortunate bass vocalist, i.e. in a Southern gospel group, gets to sing entire phrases of low-register lead and participate in call and response choruses. A great bass singer is a highly coveted asset of a bluegrass or gospel group, so developing a deeper register can lead to a highly rewarding and potentially exciting role.

I hope that this overview of singing harmony answers the questions you've raised. Please feel free to request further clarification if it is needed.

Happy singing to you.
Elena Corey

Winter Bluegrass fun

by Michael Hall
Bluegrass In Donner Pass Ski Lodges

It's not called "Rocky Top," but it could be...Two adjacent Donner Pass ski lodges offer bluegrass music along with the powder at nearby ski resorts.

The Sierra Club's Claire Tappan Lodge has frequent bluegrass nights, plus a special weekend: January 6 & 27, February 10, March 3 - Donner Peak Pickers (traditional bluegrass, band members wanted).

March 16-18 - the big "Blue Grass Weekend" - Calling amateurs and professionals for jam sessions! Plus, you and the other famed Donner Peak Pickers in the evenings! For more information, call (530) 426-3632 or visit the website at: <http://www.sierraclub.com/outings/lodges/tappan.asp>.

Next door, at University of California's Cal Lodge, bluegrass bands and individual pickers are welcome to "play for stay" any time—in exchange for jamming and performing in front of the big stone fireplace each evening with host bluegrass mandolinist Bill Davies, pickers receive free

food and lodging. If you also want to join the other members of the Donner Peak Pickers, schedule your visit for one of the above weekends. Call (800) 426-3392 or e-mail callodge@sonnet.com.

Coming soon: more information at <http://www.callodge.org>. NOTE: You do not need to be affiliated with either the Sierra Club or UC to stay and jam at these lodges, or to join the DPP band.

Bluegrass On A Cruise Ship

For those who like warm breezes with their bluegrass, the 3rd Annual Bluegrass Cruise will sail February 25-March 4, 2001 from Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The M.V. Costa Atlantica will visit Key West, Cozumel, Ocho Rios, and the Grand Cayman Islands. Bands: Jesse McReynolds, Larry Stephenson, Rhonda Vincent & The Rage, Missy Raines/Jim Hurst, Tim Graves & Cherokee, Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike, Blueridge, Mark Newton, and The Larkin Family.

For information visit the website at: <http://www.cruise-eta.com>.



Synopsis Of Board Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Board, Carl Pagter, at the Annual Membership Meeting held in Colusa, CA.

I. Roll Call: Board Members and Officers Present: Carl Pagter, Yvonne Gray, Mary Runge, Kathy Kirkpatrick, John Duncan, George Martin, Don Denison, Rick Cornish, Suzanne Denison, Robert Crowder, Mark Hogan, Sue Van Enger. Absent: Bob Thomas, M.D. "Pepper" Culpepper, Matthew Dudman, Howard Gold, Roger Siminoff, Kelly Senior, J.D. Rhynes, Harold Crawford.

Coordinators Present: Gene Kirkpatrick, Irene Evans, Neale Evans, Montie Elston. Absent: David Runge, Grant Johnston, Paye Downs, John Senior, Bob Gillim, Terry Ingraham, Gerry Szostak, Janet Wicker.

CBA Members Present: Jake Quesenberry, Janet Quesenberry, Anne Dye, Cindy Thomas, Marsha Wooldridge, Ed Baker, Bob James, Larry Kuhn.

II. Secretary's Report: Sue Van Enger reported she had distributed the final copy of the September minutes to the board members present and would mail it to absent members. Mary Runge made a motion to accept the minutes as edited. Yvonne Gray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report: Kelly Senior was not present and did not submit a report.

IV. Membership Report: Mary Runge reported membership at 2900.

V. Mercantile Report: Irene Evans reported that the festival t-shirts have been moved into the mercantile inventory. It was reported that mercantile sales did very well at the Plymouth festival. The Mercantile report was distributed.

VI. Old Business:

A. Appointment of Positions:
Editor's note: for space purposes, the following were shortened. N=nomination; S=second; P=passed.

1. Secretary - Sue Van Enger
N: Mary Runge; S:George Martin; P unanimously.
2. Treasurer - Kelly Senior N: George Martin; S:Yvonne Gray; P unanimously.
3. Membership Vice President - Mary Runge; N: George Martin; S:Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
4. President: Tabled until November.
5. CBA Activities Vice President - Bob Thomas; N:Don Denison; S:George Martin; P unanimously.
6. Chairman of the Board - Carl Pagter; N:Rick Cornish; S:Mary Runge; P unanimously.
7. Napa, Sonoma and Marin Counties Activities Vice President - Mark Hogan; N: Mary Runge; S: George Martin; P unanimously.
8. South Bay Area Activities Vice President - Roger Siminoff; N:Rick Cornish; S:Don Denison; P unanimously.
9. Sacramento Area Activities Vice President - Tabled until November.
10. Goodwill Ambassadors: Sue Van Enger asked if the Goodwill Ambassador positions are lifetime or if they are appointed each year. She was informed that they are lifetime positions. Rick Cornish made a motion that the CBA confirm that these positions are lifetime positions. Mary Runge seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
11. Photographer - Howard Gold; N:Don Denison; S: Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
12. Co-Legal Counsel - Matthew Dudman; N:Mary Runge; S: George Martin; P Yes (4) No (0) Abstention (1). The abstention was Carl Pagter.
13. Festival Coordinator - Montie Elston; N: Rick Cornish; S: Yvonne Gray; P unanimously.
14. Advance Ticket Sales Coordinator David Runge; N: Rick Cornish; S: Don Denison; P unanimously.
15. Children's Program Coordinator - Terry Ingraham; N:Don Denison; S:Mary Runge; P unanimously.
16. Gate Crew Coordinator - Marsha Wooldridge; N:Rick

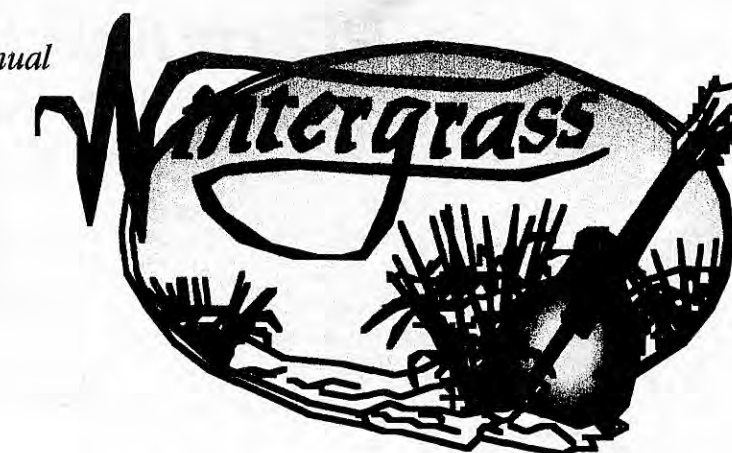
- Cornish; S:George Martin; P unanimously.
17. Concessions Coordinator - Gene Kirkpatrick; N: Mary Runge; S:Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
18. Entertainment Coordinator - Tabled until November.
19. Volunteer Coordinator - Suzanne Sullivan; N:Mary Runge; S:Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
20. Suzanne Denison brought up the subject of appointed officers and/or coordinators not attending board meetings. Discussion and suggestions followed. Carl reviewed the suggestions as follows:
 - a. A coordinator should attend as many meetings as possible with a goal of one per quarter.
 - b. A coordinator would be required to attend at least one meeting between the time of appointment and the festival.
 - c. A coordinator should submit a written report to the Festival Coordinator when not able to attend the board meeting.
21. Security - Yvonne Gray; N:Mary Runge; S:Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
22. Communication and Transportation - tim Edes; N:Rick Cornish; S:George Martin; P unanimously.
23. Procurement - Susan Rea; N:Rick Cornish; S:Don Denison; P unanimously.
24. Electrical Coordinator - Bob Gillim; N:Mary Runge; S:Yvonne Gray; P unanimously.
25. Mercantile Coordinator - Montie Elston; N:Mary Runge; S: Don Denison; P unanimously.
26. Ticket Booth Coordinator - Mike McGar; N:Rick Cornish; S:Yvonne Gray; P unanimously.
27. Publicity Coordinators - Karen Noel broadcast publicity; George Martin print publicity; N:Mary Runge; S: Yvonne Gray; P unanimously.
28. Stage Coordinator - Tabled until November.
29. Festival T-Shirt Coordinator - Neale Evans; N:Mary Runge; S:Rick Cornish; P unanimously.
30. Lighting Coordinator - John Senior; N: Rick Cornish;

- S:George Martin; P unanimously.
31. All of the coordinator appointments of those persons absent from the board meeting are done so contingent upon acceptance by that person.
- B. Band Selection Committee: John Duncan presented a list of potential band selection committee members. They are: Whit Washburn, Dan Partain, Dorothy Gillim, Jim Allison, J.D. Pierce, John Green, Harold Crawford, Elida Ickes, Paul Bernstein, M.D. Culpepper, Bill Downs, Joe Quealy, Pat Ickes, Frank Solivan with alternates Janet Wicker and Tracy Pierce. Mary Runge made a motion to accept these committee members. Rick Cornish seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
- C. Activities Reports.
 1. CBA Activities n Robert Crowder: Robert reported there were 13 tents and 49 RV's at the fall campout with 118 campers. Revenue was \$1,944.00. He said he would be interested in continuing planning campouts and would like to assist Bob Thomas in this area.
 2. Sacramento Area Activities - Bob Thomas: Bob was not present. Cindy Thomas reported that Bob has been working on the Woodland festival in November and all things are on schedule.
 3. South Bay Area Activities - Roger Siminoff: Roger was not present. Rick Cornish said the activity at Waves has been re-instated. He reported the NCBS having their LaHonda festival the same weekend as our campout and said he felt each had suffered attendance due to the other. He is hoping to avoid concurrent events by working on a master calendar.
 4. Napa, Sonoma, Marin County Activities - Mark Hogan: Mark reported on the concert set for February 18, 2000, that it has not been moved to the Anly High School Theater. There will be no charge to the CBA for use of the theater.

5. Festival Timeline:
 - A. Suzanne Denison will order festival tickets.
 - B. George Martin will put an announcement in Bluegrass Unlimited.
- VII. Other Business:
 1. Suzanne Denison read a letter from Ronald Van Horn that spoke about the stage set up at Grass Valley. Discussion followed.
 2. Kathy Kirkpatrick read a letter from Jay Albright with suggestions for the Year 2001 festival.
 3. Handicapped Spaces at the Grass Valley Festival: Yvonne Gray made a motion to reserve 35 handicapped spaces at the Grass Valley Festival and institute a cut-off date for reservations of May 1. Discussion followed. Don Denison seconded the original motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.
 4. California Band Showcase: Rick Cornish explained the concept and the band selection procedure as follows:
 - A. Following the established process, all band submittals are numerically rated by the Band Selection Committee;
 - B. Band Selection Coordinators and/or their designees tally rating results and rank order all submittals accordingly;
 - C. The highest (see "a" below) ranked bands are selected as regular featured for the June, 2001, Father's Day Festival. Each will play two sets at the festival.
 - D. The highest ranked five non-touring California bands are selected as California Showcase featured bands for the June, 2001, Father's Day Festival. Each of these bands will play one set at the festival; if a non-touring California band is selected as a regular featured band, that band will play two sets - one regular set and one set in the California showcase.
 - E. Band selection coordinators go down the list of the five highest rated non-touring California bands, one by one, asking the Selection Committee if any member believes the band does not meet the quality

Continued on page 21

8th annual



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Early Bird Discount Tickets are Now on Sale for CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend

BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

June 14, 15 16 & 17, 2001 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

An Outstanding Line-up of talent featuring:

- Longview • Lonesome River Band • Lynn Morris Band • James King Band • Seldom Scene
- Kathy Kallick and a Good Ol' Persons Reunion
- Ron Spears & Within Tradition (Emerging Artist Band) • Jimmy Bowen and Santa Fe
- Vince Combs and Shadetree Bluegrass • the Grasshoppers • Kids on Bluegrass • the Keith Little Band • Lost Highway
- the New Piney Creek Weasels • Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley & a Clogging Group to be announced

California Band Showcases Featuring: the Bladerunners - the Crooked Jades - Modern Hicks - Pacific Crest & the Witcher Brothers

Come and join us in our 26th Annual Fathers' Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California.
Four days of family fun, jamming, workshops, Children's Programs, and the best in Bluegrass and Old Time Music on stage under the beautiful pine trees in Grass Valley.

Things You Should Know

- Absolutely NO PETS allowed on the festival grounds before or during the festival.
- Camping is in the rough on the festival site beginning Monday, June 11 through Wednesday, June 13 for a fee of \$15 per unit per night for RVs and tents (lots of grass and big pine trees), limited hookups available, on a first-come, first-served basis. Designated tents only camping area available. Limited number of campsites for handicapped persons. Advance reservations required by June 1, 2001.
- Camping during the festival is included in 3 and 4 day tickets.
- No alcohol is sold on the festival grounds. • Food and soft drink concessions on site, (picnic baskets and coolers permitted).
- Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Audience area is a grassy lawn with trees.
- Festival is held rain or shine - **ABSOLUTELY NO REFUNDS and NO PETS ALLOWED.**

2001 Festival Band Performance Schedule

Thursday 6-14-01				Saturday 6/16/01			
10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Grasshoppers		10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	New Piney Creek Weasels	
10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Modern Hicks	CA Showcase	10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition	
11:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.	Keith Little Band		11:50 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops	
12:35 p.m.	1:35 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops		1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley	
1:35 p.m.	2:20 p.m.	Lost Highway		2:25 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	Vince Combs & Shadetree	
2:30 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Jimmy Bowen & Santa Fe		3:20 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	Lonesome River Band	
3:25 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	Good Ol' Persons Reunion		4:15 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	Cloggers	
4:20 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	Pacific Crest	CA Showcase	4:55 p.m.	5:40 p.m.	New Piney Creek Weasels	
5:15 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	Lynn Morris Band		5:40 p.m.	6:45 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops	
6:00 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops		6:45 p.m.	7:15 p.m.	Kids On Bluegrass	
7:30 p.m.	8:15 p.m.	Good Ol' Persons Reunion		7:15 p.m.	7:45 p.m.	Board Presentations	
8:25 p.m.	9:10 p.m.	Crooked Jades	CA Showcase	7:55 p.m.	8:40 p.m.	Seldom Scene	
9:20 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	Lynn Morris Band		8:50 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition	
10:15 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	James King Band		9:45 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	Longview	
Friday 6-15-01				Sunday 6-17-01			
10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Jimmy Bowen & Santa Fe		8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Interdenominational Chapel	
10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Vince Combs & Shadetree Bluegrass				Children's Program Stage	
11:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.	James King Band		9:30 a.m.	11:20 a.m.	Gospel Show	
12:35 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops		11:30 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	Seldom Scene	
1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	Lost Highway		12:15 p.m.	1:45 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops	
2:25 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	Keith Little Band		1:45 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	Lonesome River Band	
3:30 p.m.	4:15 p.m.	Grasshoppers		2:40 p.m.	3:25 p.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition	
4:25 p.m.	4:55 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass		3:35 a.m.	4:20 p.m.	Seldom Scene	
5:05 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	Cloggers		4:30 p.m.	5:15 p.m.	Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley	
5:35 p.m.	6:35 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops		5:25 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	Lonesome River Band	
6:35 p.m.	7:20 p.m.	Bladerunners	CA Showcase				
7:30 p.m.	8:15 p.m.	Witcher Brothers	CA Showcase				
8:25 p.m.	9:10 p.m.	Good Ol' Persons Reunion					
9:20 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	James King Band					
10:15 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	Lynn Morris Band					

Band Schedule subject to change due to performer's schedule or travel conflicts. Final schedule will be available at the Festival.

~ Early Bird Ticket Order Form ~

CBA Member Advance Ticket Prices and Senior Citizen (Age 65 and over) Discounts are offered to CBA Members only. Members are entitled to purchase 1 discount ticket for a single membership or 2 discount tickets for a Couple Membership. Deadline for Advance Discount tickets is June 1, 2001. No Discounts available at the gate.

Early Bird Discount (11/1/00 - 2/28/01)

CBA Member Tickets	
4-Day Adult	\$60
4-Day Senior (65 & over)	\$50
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$30
3-Day Adult	\$45
3-Day Teen	\$25

Non-Member Ticket Prices	
4-Day Adult	\$70
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$45
3-Day Adult	\$60
3-Day Teen (13-18)	\$40

Single Day Tickets No discounts available	
Thursday	\$20
Friday	\$25
Saturday	\$25
Sunday	\$15
Children 12 & Under	FREE

Gate Ticket Prices (no discounts)	
4-Day Adult	\$85
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$45
3-Day Adult	\$65
3-Day Teen (13-18)	\$35

CAMPING INCLUDED IN ALL 3 AND 4 DAY FESTIVAL TICKETS.
EARLY CAMPING OPENS MONDAY, JUNE 11. CAMPING 6/11 TO 6/13 \$15 PER NIGHT PER UNIT (TENTS & RVs)
DESIGNATED TENT ONLY CAMPING AREA RULE WILL BE ENFORCED 6/11/01.

Limited number of camping spaces for persons who need special camping arrangements due to a handicapping condition. Advance reservations by May 1, 2001 are required. For information or to reserve a space, call Yvonne Gray at 209-951-3129.

Please send me the following tickets to the CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival:

CBA Member Tickets		Single Day Tickets	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-Day Adult @ \$60		<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Only @ \$20	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-Day Senior @ \$50		<input type="checkbox"/> Friday Only @ \$25	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$30		<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Only @ \$25	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Day Adult @ \$45		<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Only @ \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$25			
Non-Member Tickets		CBA Member No. _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-Day Adult @ \$70		Date of Order _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4-Day Teen @ \$40		Total Enclosed _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Day Adult @ \$60		Mail ticket order form, a SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPED LEGAL-SIZED ENVELOPE, and check or money order payable to the California Bluegrass Association (CBA) to:	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$35		CBA Festival Advance Tickets	
		David Runge	
		215 Grant Avenue	
		Petaluma, CA 94952	

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For further information about tickets, call: (707) 762-8735

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NO MEMBER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON TICKETWEB. ABSOLUTELY NO PETS. NO REFUNDS.

Synopsis of the October 2000 CBA Board Minutes

Continued from page 20
standard required to play at the Father's Day Festival. In such cases, a simple majority vote of the Committee determines if the band meets the quality standard. Should a majority of the Committee determine that a band does not meet the quality standard, the band is dropped from the list of Showcase bands and the next highest rated non-touring California band is added. This process is followed for each new band added to the list until five bands are selected or it has been determined less than five bands meet the quality standard required to perform in the California showcase.

F. Per past practice, all bands selected to play at the June, 2001, Father's Day Festival will be brought to the CBA Board of Directors for ratification. If the Selection Committee has determined through Step 5 above that less than five bands meet the quality standard needed to perform in the California showcase, submittals of the rejected bands will be played for the Board of Directors prior to its ratification of the Committee's decision. Final determination is the sole responsibility of the Board of Directors.

Footnotes: a. The number of regular featured bands to be determined by the Entertainment Coordinator b. Non-touring California band is defined as a band whose majority of members reside in California and has not routinely performed throughout the state and nation in the past five years. Determination of which bands meet this definition is the sole responsibility of the two Band Selection Coordinators.

Rick suggested the CBA board should be involved in the process. Carl Pagter explained that the board does not have time to listen to the bands. He feels the committee members are capable of making a decision. Rick said that in

the unlikely situation that not enough California bands who have submitted applications are picked, he wishes the entire board and not just the selection committee "take the heat". Discussion followed. Don Denison suggested having the band selection committee meet before the November board meeting. He feels that would save time and the final decision could be made at the board meeting. Montie Elston said he feels it is important for the

board to be involved in the band selection process. More discussion followed.

E. George Martin asked about election results. Carl Pagter explained these will be published in the Bluegrass Breakdown. Ed Baker suggested the CBA may want to research publishing guidelines in the state election laws.

F. Kathy Kirkpatrick notified the board that Pappy's (festival security contractor) wife has passed away. A card has been sent.

VIII. New Business: The November board meeting will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of Gene and Kathy Kirkpatrick

in Stockton, CA.

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Van Enger



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

The heart of the program is **the recording; a high quality stereo mix** of guitar, mandolin, bass, dobro, fiddle and banjo. The CD makes it easy to repeat a particular song over and over to make your practicing more productive. By providing a variety of tempos, (100, 150, and 200 beats per minute), you can pick the one you feel the most comfortable with. More than one solo is provided as you progress in technique. The first solo, or break, is the easiest (**beginner**), and is generally the basic melody. After playing it, another instrument will take a solo on the recording and you will then need to play the **back-up**, followed by another solo that's a little more difficult (**intermediate**). Thereby, you'll be taking turns with the other musicians; just like a real playing situation. Included are the endings. The music is written **LARGER** than is found in most music books, with the words included, so it's easier to see.

ATTENTION GUITAR PLAYERS: In Volume 2, learn how to break away from 'first position' (a.k.a. Play *any* lead, in *any* key, *anywhere* on the neck, without using a capo).

OTHER IMPORTANT CHAPTERS INCLUDE:

- Scales and fingering studies
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Separate recordings and books are available for the **banjo, guitar, fiddle, bass, mandolin and Dobro**, working together with *matching arrangements*, so that friends and family can play the *same tunes* together.

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

The BOOK and play-along CD is \$25.00 postpaid. Specify instrument and volume.

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E-mail: virtualband@juno.com



RECORDING AND FILM REVIEWS



O Brother, Where Art Thou?

Soundtrack/Various
Mercury Records
54 Music Square East
Suite 300
Nashville, TN 37203 = 20

Songs: *Po Lazarus* - James Carter and the Prisoners, *Big Rock Candy Mountain* - Harry McClintock, *You Are My Sunshine* - Norman Blake, *Down To The River To Pray* - Alison Krauss, *I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow* - The Soggy Bottom Boys featuring Dan Tyminski, *Hard Time Killing Floor Blues* - Chris Thomas King, *I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow* - Norman Blake instrumental, *Keep On The Sunny Side* - The Whites, *I'll Fly Away* - Gillian Welch and Alison Krauss, *Didn't Leave Nobody But The Baby* - Emmylou Harris, Alison Krauss, & Gillian Welch, *In The Highways* - Sarah, Hannab, and Leab Peasall, *I Am Weary (Let Me Rest)* - The Cox Family, *I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow* - John Hartford instrumental, *O Death* - Ralph Stanley, *In The Jailhouse Now* - The Soggy Bottom Boys featuring Tim Blake Nelson, *I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow* - The Soggy Bottom Boys (with full band) featuring Dan Tyminski, *Indian War Whoop* - John Hartford, *Lonesome Valley* - Fairfield Four, *Angel Band* - The Stanley Brothers

Personnel: members of Union Station and The Nashville Bluegrass Band, all of the artists listed above, and others too numerous to mention here.

by Larry Carlin

Bluegrass goes Hollywood! It has been a long time since a major motion picture had a lot of bluegrass music featured in the soundtrack — Bonnie and Clyde and Deliverance come to mind — and it is long overdue. Lucky for bluegrass and old-time fans that the Coen Brothers have made a film where the music is central to the story, and in "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" the music is one of the stars. And most of the music in O Brother is also in a second movie that will be released soon called "Down From The Mountain," which is a documentary about the music from the O Brother film. So not only can you hear the great songs on

the soundtrack, you can see the players play them in the second film.

Produced by T. Bone Burnett, the soundtrack to O Brother has 19 songs and 15 performers, with most of them backed up by members of Union Station (Alison Krauss' band) and The Nashville Bluegrass Band. These guys also play the music of the Soggy Bottom Boys in O Brother. James Carter and the Prisoners sing the first song, "Po Lazarus," which kicks off the movie, and it is from a field recording by music historian Alan Lomax. Real prisoners sang it on a chain gang, and you can hear them swinging axes in unison. "Big Rock Candy Mountain," which was written and recorded by Harry McClintock in 1928, is a hobo's dream that has some very clever lyrics. Norman Blake sings the classic "You Are My Sunshine." The writer of "Sunshine," former Louisiana Governor Jimmie Davis, died in mid-November at the age of 101, just weeks before O Brother was released.

The main song in O Brother is "I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow," and it is on the soundtrack four times. There are two different vocal versions of it with lead vocals by Dan Tyminski, and there are also guitar and fiddle instrumental versions of it by Norman Blake and John Hartford, respectively. The Whites do a lovely rendition of the Carter Family's "Keep On The Sunny Side," and the Cox Family covers "I Am Weary (Let Me Rest)," which was written by Pete (Kuykendall) Roberts. Alison Krauss delivers a divine version of "Down To The River To Pray" that features an all-star choir of Tim O'Brien, Maura O'Connell, Gillian Welch, David Rawlings, and others. Alison and Gillian do a nice duet on the traditional gospel song "I'll Fly Away," and they team up with Emmylou Harris on an a capella song called "Didn't Leave Nobody But The Baby," where if you listen close you can hear Emmylou sing the low harmony. Chris Thomas King, who has a plum of a part as Tommy Johnson in O Brother, plays the bluesy "Hard Time Killing Floor Blues," which he also sang in his film role. Tim Blake Nelson, who as Delmar is one of the stars of the film, does a hilarious rendering of the Jimmie Rodgers song "In

The Jailhouse Now," and he is backed by The Soggy Bottom Boys, with Pat Enright providing the yodeling. The young Peasall Sisters almost steal the show on Maybelle Carter's "In The Highways," which June, Helen, and Anita Carter sang when they were kids. John Hartford, who also emcees the "Down From The Mountain" documentary, plays fiddle with the Cox Family on "Sunny Side," and he is the artist on "Indian War Whoop." The Fairfield Four, a vocal group that spans a 77 year history, performs the song "Lonesome Valley." The legendary Ralph Stanley shines on a haunting a capella version of "O Death," and the final song on the CD and in O Brother is the Stanley Brothers classic recording of the song "Angel Band."

The Coen Brothers are big fans of bluegrass and old-time music, so much so that "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" sometimes feels like a musical. Which is great, as anytime bluegrass and old-time "star" in a feature film, it helps get the word out to the uninitiated. If this movie is a success, maybe the powers-that-be who have been accused of "Murder On Music Row" by singer Larry Cordle, will come to their senses and discover where the real country music is. O Brother, wouldn't that be something?



Tomorrow I'll Be Gone

Big Country Bluegrass

Hay Holler Records

HHH-CD 1353

P.O. Box 868

Blacksburg, VA 24063

Songs: *Tomorrow I'll Be Gone*, *I've Waited Too Late*, *Muleskinner Blues*, *Days Gone By*, *Martha White Theme*, *Let Me Be Your Friend*, *Cumberland Gap*, *Gonna Walk The Streets Of Gold*, *You're Still The Rose Of My Heart*, *I Live In The Past*, *You Live In A World All Your Own*, *A Waltz For Carolyn*, *In Despair*, *Where's Your Still Uncle Bill*, *Have You Come To Say Goodbye*, *Call On His Name*.

Personnel: Tommy Sells - mandolin; Jeff Michael - fiddles, lead guitar, drop thumb banjo, vocals; Teresa Sells - rhythm guitar, vocals; Larry Pennington - banjo, vocals; Alan Mastin - bass.

By Ken Reynolds

I had never heard Big Country Bluegrass prior to receiving this CD from Hay Holler Records. But after listening to them, all I can say is that if you like in-your-face, straight-forward bluegrass, I think you will really enjoy this one.

This Virginia based band appeared on the Grand Ole Opry in 1999 after winning the Martha White Jingle contest. After listening to them perform the Martha White Theme on this CD, it's easy to see why they won.

Big Country Bluegrass is headed up by the husband and wife team of Tommy and Teresa Sells and includes some great musicians. Jeff Michael does most of the lead vocals for this dynamic band, and has a great voice for singing bluegrass. Jeff composed four of the songs on this Album: "I've Waited Too Late", "Gonna Walk The Streets Of Gold", "Call On His Name", and the instrumental, "A Waltz For Carolyn". These are great tunes and have that old traditional flavor to them.

Larry Pennington and Teresa Sells also do some lead singing on this project. Listen for Larry on "Let Me Be Your Friend" and Teresa on "Have You Come To Say Goodbye".

These folks have it together instrumentally, as evidenced by the two instrumental cuts on this CD. Give a listen to "Cumberland Gap" and "A Waltz For Carolyn", and you will see what I mean.

Vocally, these folks are hard to beat. The way their voices blend together is a pure joy to listen to. I thoroughly enjoyed listening to them perform and I am really looking forward to their next release.

Here is one that I would highly recommend to you folks who like good traditional bluegrass music.



Harmony

The Bladerunners

Bladerunners

CD 4402

8 Oakdale

Irvine, CA 92604

Songs: *Harmony*, *Caroline Carson*, *Please Believe Me*, *When Our Love Slipped Away*, *I Can't Make You Love Me*, *Till I Break Another Heart*, *Go Out And Find*

Somebody New, *Lonely Leave Me Alone*, *Someday You'll Find*, *Love's Made A Fool Of You*, *You've Already Had Your Chance*, *I'm Just A Man*, *You Told Me Once*, *Show Me The Light*, *California*, *I'll Be Coming Home*. **Personnel:** Billy Reid - banjo; Sandy MacLean - guitar and vocals; David W. Dickey III - mandolin and vocals; Dave Brown - bass and vocals; Gabe Witcher and Jeremy Garret on fiddles.

By Ken Reynolds

"Harmony" is the latest release by a very dynamic group from Southern California, known as the Bladerunners. This is the second CD by this group that I have had the privilege to review. I have had the opportunity to see these guys in a live performance and I can tell you they really put on a show. Besides being outstanding musicians, they are some of the nicest folks that you are going meet.

All the songs on this album, except one, are original compositions written either by guitarist Sandy McLean or mandolinist David W. Dickey III. Sandy and David teamed up to write "When Our Love Slipped Away". "Love's Made A Fool Of You", a Buddy Holly composition, is the only non-original song on the CD. The guys really give the tune a strong bluegrass touch.

This talented band's instrumental work is second to none. Billy really puts a lot of drive to the overall sound with his fine banjo work. Add this to the outstanding mandolin playing of David, the strong rhythm guitar of Sandy and the rock solid bass of Dave, and you have yourself some mighty fine bluegrass music.

Sandy and David trade off lead and tenor vocals, while Dave adds a very solid baritone. Their harmony vocals are strong, clean, smooth, and well blended, and I really enjoy hearing these guys sing together.

As good as this CD is, you have to see the Bladerunners in a live performance to really appreciate them. They dress really nicely, which shows respect for their audience. If you want to add some first class bluegrass to your collection, I strongly recommend this one.



RECORDING AND FILM REVIEWS



Bluegrass Mandolin and Other Trouble

Red Henry

Arrandem Records

AR-120

P.O. Box 2498

Winchester, VA 22604

Songs: *Little Big Mon, Sleepy-Eyed John, Hundred and Six Star Rag, The Darling Daughter, Clermont's Revenge, Just Because, Red's Zeppelin, Raw Hide, Two Hands On The Wheel, Redwood City, Bluegrass Breakdown, Lonesome Moonlight Waltz, Two Of A Kind, Granite Hill, Redwood City PM, Real Time Reel, Kiss it, Khomeini, Margaret, Perfect Mason, Red's Zeppelin (live), Grandpa Rock On Raw Hide (live), Unknown (this song is on the CD but not listed as being there)*

Personnel: Red Henry - mandolin, mandola, fiddle, guitar, vocals; Murphy Henry - banjo, guitar, vocals; Nancy Pate - guitar, vocals; Tuck Tucker - dobro; Christopher Henry - guitar on #1, #5, #14, mandolin on #22; Bob Higginbotham - guitar on #2 and #11; Mike Johnson - guitar on #3, #8, #15, #19; Bass: Casey Henry on #1, #5, #12, #14, #22; Bill Baker on #2, #11; Argen Hicks on #3, #4, #13; Murray Ross on #6, #9; Mindy Johnson on #8, #15, #21; Laurie Hicks on #18; Neal Thompson on #19, #20.

By Ken Reynolds

I just got this CD by Red Henry on the Arrandem label. For those of you who may not be familiar with him, he is one fine mandolin player. On this project, he has his whole family on the recording along with some friends.

The main core of musicians features Red, his wife Murphy, his son Christopher, and his daughter Casey. I'm sure most of you are familiar with Murphy. She has some instructional tapes out on how to play the banjo known as "The Murphy Method."

Original material has been a hallmark of Red and Murphy. This CD is no exception, as several of the songs presented here were written by them, or Nancy Pate, guitarist for the group.

One song that I particu-

larly found amusing was written by Murphy during the Iranian hostage crisis. It's called "Kiss it, Khomeini". This song has a lot of humor in it.

Red has composed a lot of great mandolin tunes that appear on this recording. He has a mandolin style very similar to Mr. Monroe's. He really picks the fire out of it. The whole family is very talented. Christopher does some awesome flat-picking on this album. Nancy Pate (who is Murphy's sister) wrote three of the songs that appear on this recording. These folks are talented songwriters as well as fine musicians.

The vocals are solid and blend well, but that is usually the case when you get family members singing together.

I enjoyed this CD and I think you will to.



Pickin' Out The Bluegrass Classics

Randall Hylton

Flag Records

Flag1062CD

P.O. Box 24533

Nashville, TN 37202

Songs: *Foggy Mountain Special, Wicked Path Of Sin, Joshua, I*

Wonder How The Old Folks Are At Home, How Mountain Girls Can Love, Are You Missing Me, The Ballad Of Jed Clampett, Two Little Boys, Footprints In The Snow, Dixie Breakdown, The Old Homeplace, Love Of The Mountains Rocky Top, Kentucky Waltz, On The Sea Of Life, I'm Using My Bible For A Road Map, Will The Circle Be Unbroken.

Personnel: Randall Hylton - guitar

By Ken Reynolds

"Pickin' Out The Bluegrass Classics" is the latest release by the talented Randall Hylton on Flag Records. This is not what one would generally classify as bluegrass, but the release does feature some nice finger picking.

There are some vocals on "Wicked Path Of Sin", "Are You Missing Me", "Love Of The Mountains", "Kentucky Waltz", "I'm Using Bible For A Road Map", and "Will The Circle Be Unbroken", but they are usually restricted to the chorus of the song.

Some of the songs feature nice vocal harmonies, but the liner notes give no information on who is doing the singing. I have to assume the lead vocals are done by Mr. Hylton, and in some cases, he may have overdubbed the harmonies himself.

The major emphasis on this recording is the guitar

work. I have a lot of respect for Mr. Hylton's picking and songwriting ability, but my personal taste leans more toward the full band sound.

But if you like the sound of the guitar being played in a finger picking style, you will enjoy this CD.



Circles

Steve Kaufman

Steve Kaufman Enterprises, Inc.

SBR-082300

P.O. Box 1020

Alcoa, TN 37701

Songs: *Dusty Miller Hornpipe, Jesse Polka, Billy Gray, One Christmas, Greenfields Of America, Dixie Cannonball, Billy In The Low Ground, Westfalia Waltz, A Mothers Love, Byrnes Hornpipe/Golden Farmer, Little Joe, Waltzing Matilda, Groundspeed, Somewhere Over The Rainbow, Hard Times, Temperance Reel/Pacific Slope/Golden Eagle Hornpipe.*

Personnel: All instruments

played by Steve Kaufman except the banjo parts on "Dusty Miller", "Dixie Cannonball", "Billy In The Low Ground", "Little Joe", "Ground Speed" and Over The Rainbow". Steve is joined by Sarah Pirkle - banjo, and Gary Davis - banjo, on this recording.

By Ken Reynolds

"Circles" is the latest release by Steve Kaufman, and should catch the interest of all you guitar pickers out there.

This project features mostly instrumental tunes. However, there are four tunes that feature vocals: "Billy Gray", "Dixie Cannonball", "Little Joe" and "Hard Times". Although the liner notes are not clear, I assume that Steve does the vocals on "Billy Gray" and "Little Joe", and that Sarah Pirkle does the vocal work on "Dixie Cannonball" and "Hard Times".

The main strength of this
Continued on page 24



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HOW I GOT INTO BLUEGRASS MUSIC AT AN OLD AGE AND AM HAVING MORE FUN THAN ANYBODY I KNOW

by
JOHN SEGINSKI



RECORDING AND FILM REVIEWS



Continued from page 23

album is the hot guitar picking provided by Kaufman. I especially enjoyed his version of "Groundspeed". The way he did chimes on the strings on a portion of this tune gave me goose bumps. This man is definitely a master guitar picker, and does equally well on the mandolin.

I liked most of the selections presented here and I think that anyone who enjoys good flat-picking will too. So check this out folks.



Unit Of Measure

Tony Rice Unit

Rounder Records

CD 11661-0405-2

One Camp Street

Cambridge, MA 02140

Songs: *Manzanita (1st Variation)* - *House Of The Rising Sun* - *Shenandoah* - *Gold Rush* - *Jerusalem Ridge* - *High Noon* - *Beaumont Rag* - *Swing 42* - *An Old Irish Aire (Danny Boy)* - *Sally Goodin*.

Personnel: Tony Rice - guitar; Rickie Simpkins - fiddle; Wyatt Rice - guitar; Jimmy Gaudreau - mandolin; Ronnie Simpkins - bass.

By Ken Reynolds

Here is one for all you Tony Rice fans out there. It's on the Rounder label and is titled "Unit Of Measure". This all instrumental CD is a fusion of bluegrass, jazz, and folk music that Tony calls "spacegrass". Though this is not all traditional bluegrass, there are some tunes easily recognized as traditional. Songs like "Gold Rush", "Jerusalem Ridge", "Beaumont Rag", and "Sally Goodin" all have that traditional flavor. Each song has the unique Tony Rice touch.

Tony got some of the top musicians to back him on this project, and the talent really shows as you listen to this album. Rickie Simpkins plays some hot fiddle. Couple that with the dynamic mandolin style of Jimmy Gaudreau, and Tony and Wyatt Rice on guitar, and you've got yourself some mighty fine picking.

I can't say that I personally liked all the selections on this

CD, but never the less they were played to perfection. My favorite cuts were "Jerusalem Ridge" and "Beaumont Rag". The guys also did a beautiful rendition of "Shenandoah".

If you like good bluegrass and acoustic picking, you really need to check this one out.



The Legacy Continues

George Shuffler and James Alan Shelton

Copper Creek Records

CCCD 0182

P.O. Box 3161

Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: *True Life Blues*, *Katy Dear*, *Carter Family Medley*, *Nearer My God To Thee*, *Banks Of The Ohio*, *Nobody's Business*, *House Of Gold*, *No Letter In The Mail*, *Old Leather*, *When Our Lord Shall Come Again*, *I Still Miss Someone*, *Six More Miles*, *Take Me In Your Lifeboat* / *Sweet Bye And Bye*.

Personnel: George Shuffler - guitar and bass; James Alan Shelton - guitar; Ron Shuffler - bass on "Take me In You Lifeboat" and "Sweet Bye And Bye".

By Ken Reynolds

What do you get when you pair two of the top cross-picking guitarists together? Well in this case you get a CD from Copper Creek Records, titled "The Legacy Continues", featuring the talents of George Shuffler and James Alan Shelton.

In the early 1960s, George introduced his cross-picking style to the Stanley Brothers' sound. As most of you know, Shelton is the current guitar player with the Ralph Stanley band.

The tempo of the songs on this CD range from a medium tempo to slow, but does make for some enjoyable listening.

George and James trade off leads on each song. Although they sound similar, each has his on unique style in how the song is played, and it is easy to hear the difference.

All of the tunes are done in a cross-picking style except one — "Nobody's Business", which is done in a Merle Travis/Chet Atkins style. The instrumentation on this project consists of just guitars and bass.

I thoroughly enjoyed their arrangement on each song pre-

sented. The picking is smooth and clean and there is a nice selection of material on this CD.

If you like the sound of cross-picking on the guitar, done to perfection, and you want to get your hands on some easy listening music, you've got to add this one to your collection.



My Style

Herschel Sizemore

Hay Holler Records

HHH-CD 1354

P.O. Box 868

Blacksburg, VA 24063

Songs: *Sandy Ridge*, *Joyce's Waltz*, *Amondolina*, *Monroe County*, *Me 'N' Bauc*, *Lee's Reel*, *Cotton Eyed Joe*, *Fancy Gap*, *Charmaine*, *Loar's Waltz*, *2 O'clock In The Morning*, *Monroe's Hornpipe*, *Billy In The Low Ground*, *The Old Brown County Barn*.

Personnel: Herschel Sizemore - mandolin; Terry Baucom - banjo; Jim Haley - guitar; Ron Stewart - fiddle; Alan Bibey - mandolin harmony on Lee's Reel and Monroe's Hornpipe; lead guitar on Charmaine.

By Ken Reynolds

"My Style" is the latest release by a man who is considered by many musicians to be a master on the mandolin. Herschel Sizemore has played with the likes of the Bluegrass Cardinals, Jimmy Martin and the Sunny Mountain Boys, Del McCoury's Dixie Pals, and was one of the founding members of the Shenandoah Cutups.

His picking is very solid and clean and he is noted for writing instrumentals. He has eight original tunes on this project, six of them never recorded before. As you listen to this album, you're going to hear the mandolin the way it was meant to be played. When you look at the caliber of talent backing Herschel on this project, you just know that it's going to be a good one.

The original tunes on this album includes: "Sandy Ridge", "Joyce's Waltz", "Amondolina", "Monroe County", "Me 'n' Bauc", "Lee's Reel", "Loar's Waltz", and "Fancy Gap".

I have been a fan of Herschel's mandolin picking and songwriting ever since I first heard the tune "Rebecca", an-

other great song that he composed.

There wasn't a tune in this CD that I didn't like and it would be hard for me to pick a favorite among them.

I'm sure that all you mandolin pickers out there will really enjoy this one, I know I sure did.

If you don't have this one in your collection, I strongly recommend that you get your hands on it as soon as you can.



Windy Mountain

Pete And Joan Wernick

Niwot Records

CD-0000001

P.O. Box 955

Niwot, CO 80544

Songs: *I've Endured*, *Nobody's Darlin' But Mine*, *Mama's Hand*, *Windy Mountain*, *Caves Of Jericho*, *There'll Always Be A Rocking Chair*, *Walking In The Air*, *Be Proud Of The Gray In Your Hair*, *Setting The Woods On Fire*, *Maple's Lament*, *Each Season Changes You*, *My Love Is A Rider*, *Dark Hollow*.

Personnel: Pete Wernick - banjo and vocals; Joan Wernick - guitar and vocals.

By Ken Reynolds

I just got this recording from Niwot Records which features Pete and Joan Wernick. For the very few of you who may not know who Pete Wernick is, and I would find it hard to imagine anyone not knowing, Pete was the banjo player for the legendary Hot Rize group.

On this CD he teams up with his wife Joan to present some songs for your listening pleasure. Don't expect any full band sound here it's just Pete on banjo and Joan on guitar, singing duets together. On the song "Windy Mountain", there is a mandolin part but the liner notes give no indication as to who is playing it.

Joan has a very strong voice, and has that old time mountain quality to it. Pete does mostly harmony to her vocals. Their voices blend very well together.

This CD is full of good music. Along with traditional songs like "My Love Is A Rider", and "Dark Hollow", they have recorded songs written by the likes of Jimmie Davis, Ola Belle Reed, Curly Ray Cline, and Dave Evans, just to name a few. All the songs

are full of emotion and very well presented by this duo.

Joan plays a very solid rhythm guitar on this project and the banjo picking is vintage Pete Wernick. If you want to add some great music to your collection, you need to give this one a listen.



Bluegrass Guitars That Destroyed the World

Various Artists

CH Records

Burlington VT

PO box 39439

Los Angeles CA 90039

Songs: *Mississippi Sawyer*, *Dark Eyes*, *Water Baby Boogie*, *Heart it on the X*, *Standing Outside in the Fire*, *Billy in the Lowground*, *Big Mon*, *Layla*, *Persuasion*, *Town Hall Rag*, *Cowgirl in the Sand*, *Big Sandy River*, *Sin Wagon*, *Rock Mountain Special*, *Soul Sacrifice*, *All Along the Watchtower*.

Guitarists: Kenny Blackwell, Joe Maphis, David Johnson, Bryan Sutton, David West, Dennis Caplinger, Mark Thornton, Arthur Smith, Raul Reynoso. A cast of tens in support.

By Tom Sours

The tear sheet that came with this all instrumental CD has this description: "This collection is a barrage of strings, an assault of fiery fingers, a show of skillful picking." I'd say that's about right. These guys come out of the gate screaming with the old favorite Mississippi Sawyer and don't let up. Along the way they burn through several contemporary, old time and swing tunes. All are played with taste and clean picking. There are sixteen numbers on this CD. So you not only get your ears' worth but your money's worth as well.

Those who like pyrotechnic picking would enjoy this project. It is uplifting and would put you in the right mood. It will bring you out of funk and put you right.





RECORDING AND FILM REVIEWS



Bluegrass At The Movies

Suddenly the cold, wet winter months don't seem so bleak after all by Larry Carlin

Bluegrass fans have something to do during this cold month of January as they recover from the post-holiday blues while bemoaning the fact that festival season is still eons away. It has been a long time since bluegrass music played a major part in a movie, and lucky for us, there are not one but two new movies out there for you to enjoy, and both come from the same source. And on top of all of this, there is a wonderful soundtrack available from the films that features some great bluegrass and traditional music. Heck, who says the holiday season is over?

In December, the feature film "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" was released in major markets around the country. It was made by Joel and Ethan Coen, who also gave us the film

gems "Fargo," "Blood Simple" and "Raising Arizona" just to name a few. O Brother is an updated, comedic retelling of Homer's "The Odyssey" and it stars George Clooney, John Turturro, Tim Blake Nelson, and Holly Hunter.

Set in Mississippi in 1937, Clooney and his two sidekicks escape from a chain gang and then embark on a journey in search of a hidden treasure, encountering many colorful characters in their travels. Along the way they stop by a radio station where they were told you can make money "by singing into a tin can," and there they record "I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow." They call themselves The Soggy Bottom Boys, and unbeknownst to them the song goes on to become a big hit, as the press and public wonder who these guys are. As you might expect in a Coen Brothers film, there is lots of skewering going on, as politics, racism, and religion are all examined. Marvelous performances abound by all, with smaller scene-stealers by larger-

than-life characters John Goodman and Charles Durning. O Brother is the Coen Brothers at their best, and if nothing else this film will expose unwitting audiences to the wonderful world of bluegrass music.

In January another film will be released that came about as a result of the music used in the O Brother movie. In May of 2000 a benefit concert for the County Music Hall of Fame was staged at the venerable Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, with most of the performers who played on the soundtrack on the stage. Acclaimed documentarian D. A. Pennebaker (of Don't Look Back and Monterey Pop fame) was hired by the Coen Brothers to record the concert on film. The result is "Down From The Mountain", which features live performances — and backstage scenes — with some of the greats of bluegrass and traditional music.

John Hartford is the host and emcee for the Ryman show, and it is one fabulous concert. Since some of the artists whose work was used in O Brother are no

longer with us, others sang in their stead at the Ryman show. The first song "Po Lazarus" was sung by James Carter and The Prisoners in the movie, but done in Mountain by The Fairfield Four. Likewise the original version of "Big Rock Candy Mountain" by Harry McClintock was used in the film, but in Mountain John Hartford croons the tune. One odd twist is that very-much-alive Alan O'Bryant of The Nashville Bluegrass Band sang "You Are My Sunshine" in O Brother, yet in Mountain Norman Blake is the singer. Aside from these exceptions, those who sang them in the O Brother movie sing the rest of the concert songs.

The real star of both O Brother and Mountain is the music. There are very few scenes in the O Brother where there is no music playing. The Coen Brothers are big fans of bluegrass and early country music, and some of the musicians have parts in O Brother, most notably bluesman Chris Thomas King, who "sold his soul to the devil down at the crossroads." The

main song in the film, "I Am A Man Of Constant Sorrow," is sung by Dan Tyminski, the mandolin player from Alison Krauss & Union Station, and he is backed by the Soggy Bottom Boys who are the rest of the members of Union Station. George Clooney lip-synchs the tune in O Brother. Alison Krauss, Emmylou Harris, and Gillian Welch do an a capella three-part song called "Didn't Leave Nobody But The Baby," and Ralph Stanley sings a haunting a capella version of "O Death." The Cox Family and The Whites are showcased on the classics "I Am Weary" and "Keep On The Sunnyside." And the young Peasall Sisters, who sing three-part harmony on the Maybelle Carter song "In The Highways," upstage all of the adults. Plus there is lots more, including a grand finale with all the musicians singing the Stanley Brothers

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A New Year!

By Joe Weed

Welcome to January! I hope your holidays were fun and safe and sane, and that you got lots of good picking and singing in. With the proliferation of winter festivals and bluegrass gatherings, it's much easier than ever to keep on top of your bluegrass chops, stay in practice, and learn new tunes.

Doings at Highland Studio...

As I write this column (in early December) I'm hearing the delightful strains of John Taylor's fiddle wafting into the office from the control room. John, a great fiddler from Scotland who lives in San Jose, California, has been here for two weeks working on an album of fiddle music. His producer is Brian McNeil, one of the founding members of Scotland's famous Battlefield Band, and a well-known touring musician in his own right both here and abroad.

Brian McNeil

Brian is a very hands-on producer, adding much to John's album. Besides working with John on artistic direction and arrangements, he has been playing guitar, cittern, mandolin, octave violin, fiddle, and concertina. And he frequently likes to sit at the console to edit and mix (as in this case, allowing me to finish my column for the Bluegrass Breakdown!) He has brought in several very fine musicians to contribute to John's

Bluegrass at the Movies

Continued from page 25

ers hit "Angel Band."

Rare is the time that so much great music is found on a movie soundtrack. Not since "Bonnie and Clyde" and "Deliverance" has bluegrass been so prominent in a feature film. And even rarer still is the time when there are two excellent movies out at the same time that have bluegrass music in them. Both films are eligible for Oscar and Grammy nods, so who knows — the year 2001 could be a big year for bluegrass on the silver screen and on the radio.



project, including Ed Miller. Ed is a Scot living now in Austin, Texas, and he flew out here to sing and whistle on John's album. Ed hosts a regular radio show on Austin's public radio station where he has presented Sarah Elizabeth Campbell and other CBA favorites over the years.

MacPherson's Lament

Ed sang a version of a famous Scottish ballad, "MacPherson's Lament," which tells the story of an eighteenth-century Scottish fiddler who paid his bills by robbing. He was eventually caught and sentenced to death by hanging.

When word of his great fiddling exploits reached the highest circles of government, a pardon was issued, only to arrive at the hanging scene moments after his execution. His last acts were to play a fiddle tune and then smash his fiddle (an early precursor of Jimi Hendrix?) Brian and John both told me that there are "about 28" different museums around Scotland displaying the wrecked fiddle.

Rich Robertson, who tours with Robert Earle Keene, came out from Austin to add guitar and bouzouki tracks. A true pro, he showed up early, knew his parts well, and stayed focused and took direction very well until the parts were done.

Several Bay Area musicians contributed tracks to John's great album, including Lawrence Drummond (from Aptos, CA), who played trumps in various keys. A trump is a very fancy and precision made jaw harp, and Lawrence has one in every key, much like a harmonica player would. John Taylor's son and daughters also came in to put down tracks, with Stuart playing different types of pipes, Lesley adding djembe, snare drum, shakers and other percussion, and Fiona playing vibraslap. All in all, the sounds are very Celtic, the instruments quite eclectic, and the music very beautiful.

So what does a producer do, anyway? And do I need one?

Sometimes people ask me, "What exactly does a producer do?" I usually answer "everything!" When they ask, "do I need one?" my answer varies. A

producer's job can be quite different from project to project, and from artist to artist. The things that always seem to be part of a producer's work center around the producer's overall vision of the artist's place in the world music community, the place of each of the artist's songs within the album being recorded, and the place of each instrument within the song being recorded. In other words, the producer's vision helps the artist to put every piece of a complex album production into its best and most appropriate place.

The big picture...

Many times, an artist may be great at singing, or at fiddling, or at song writing, but be quite lost when it comes to knowing how to present that talent to the musical world in an album context. This is where a producer helps. A producer should know the musical world, from the style of the artist to how that style fits into the big musical scene of the

early twenty-first century. Knowing this big picture allows the producer to best allocate the time and financial resources of the artist or record company most efficiently.

In the bluegrass world..

For example, when making a bluegrass album, the producer should be familiar with how bluegrass albums fit into the radio broadcast picture and how they fit into the festival and gigging picture of a bluegrass band. The producer should be familiar with the sounds of bluegrass also—from the many ways the upright bass sounds in bluegrass to the various types of guitar, banjo, mandolin, dobro, fiddle and vocal sounds being recorded today. He or she should also be familiar with different types of bluegrass bands, from progressive to traditional, and from gospel vocal groups to hot instrumental bands. Knowing how a particular band's project fits into this big picture allows the pro-

ducer to help define a goal of sounds and purpose which will unify the focus and presentation of the album.

This means that the producer should be familiar with all the bluegrass instruments—not necessarily as a player, but at least with their sounds and how they are used in bluegrass. The producer should be familiar with recording techniques and equipment as well, so that he or she can communicate with the recording engineer to achieve the best and most appropriate sound for each instrument being recorded. Microphone choice and signal processing (including room sound, pre-amp choice, equalization, compression, etc.) are all important components of an instrument or voice's recorded

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New Year's Yea! For Music

By Elena Corey

Music comes so naturally to us that we do not always consider what a marvelous and miraculous gift music is to the world. All over the world and across the centuries, people have fashioned musical instruments that make a wide variety of sounds and render open-ended rhythms. We listen to each other, additionally, as our voices provide hums, lilts, growls, squeaks and even yodels to entertain ourselves. We not only enjoy making these sounds and listening to others, we presume to "understand" and communicate messages via music. Our hearts swell as the music swells; we are desolate when the minor, melancholy tones touch our sadness. We "hear" things that evoke meaning for us in the various tones of our instruments. We perceive that our communication is enhanced by musical sound beyond the boundaries of ordinary speech.

Music has fascinated folks and called to their imaginations for years. It is reputed to have charms to soothe a savage breast and to incite a lethargic group of folks into a mob. Merchandisers of all sorts of wares "use" music to enhance their sales appeal.

Courting couples often identify one piece of music as "their" song.

Because music is often recognized as a universal language, it is easy to see parallels between music and verbal language. On several levels, similarities exist—from the fact that both are integrated systems of expression to the fact that intelligent folks have pondered the mysteries of both and devised internally-self-consistent views of both verbal language and music. Alternately, we see that it is, indeed, possible to produce the musical equivalent of "bfgstrdy" or "zytsrgv" but that no one takes such renderings seriously very long in either verbal language or music. We gradually tune out what doesn't fit within the larger picture.

Even though we may not hold such things as "rules of combination" in our head consciously or be able to articulate them, we tend to recognize when something doesn't sound quite right both in music and in speech. Consider Richard Lederer's poem that ends:

"If knights still slay as once they slew, then do we play as once we plew?"

If I still do as once I did, then

do cows moo, as they once mid?"

The lyric is recognized as funny; we are not deceived. We've internalized at least some of the rules of forming tenses. The same thing happens in music. Just as verbal humor depends on the hearer recognizing that an odd word is odd, musical anomalies rely on the awareness of what is different from usual. So it occurs that musicians often experience their hands going to the appropriate next chord even when an incorrect chord is printed on the page (as sometimes happens). That isn't startling. For years we've absorbed sounds and their ways of combining in Western music. Our ears have internalized the tacit agreement we've learned about what sounds good musically. Of course, our ears sometimes go off on tangents, delighting in unusual, delicious or even quirky creation of musical tension or unusual combinations. We delight ourselves with small bursts of creativity and revel in imaginative rhythms.

Researchers like to identify discrete parts of whatever they study. And so the interface between language, the mouth and

Continued on page 27

J.D.'s Bluegrass Kitchen

Howdy, Howdy, Howdy!

Well folks here we are starting another year down the Bluegrass road of life. I've got Del McCoury playing in the background as I write this month's column and a big pot of Cowboy coffee on the stove. Life is good!

The weather here in the mountains this morning is cold and cloudy, but that's how it's supposed to be this time of year, so I'll just throw another log on the fire and enjoy it! Today is one of those sleepy winter days that just make you want to curl up under a warm blanket on the couch in front of the fire with a book and pretend that you're reading it. That way when my cowboy buddy Pat Russell (of the infamous "Rustling Russells") stops by for coffee you don't appear to be quite as lazy as you really are on this particular day.

But then again, I've caught him "reading" from time to time too! Being the industrious breed that most cowboys are, I guess that this will suffice for a "front" and not let the world know that they are, after all, mere mortals too!

I've always made it my rule to never discuss anything regarding politics here in this column, but I'm gonna break that rule this month. After watching all the political baloney in Florida for the last two months all I've got to say is, folks isn't it about time that we elected a cowboy for president? Nuff said about that.

Well it was cloudy when I

got up this morning, but the sky is really getting dark outside right now so I've just thrown another log on the fire. So why not come on in and pour yourself a big cup of good ol' Cowboy coffee, pull a chair up to the fire and we'll palaver awhile over some good vittles and fixin's thereof.

As most of you regular readers know, I have a very unique filing system for the recipes that are still in their original printed form as I collected them. That is large brown grocery bags. Every winter I absolutely swear that I'm gonna set down and write every one of them on a card for my recipe box. Hah!

Well during one of those well intentioned rainy days recently, I actually did pull out one of my recipe bags and attempt to do just that, but the day was shorter than the bag was full! However, I did find the three following recipes — two from different newspapers and one from some magazine. I remembered making the Potato Pie some years ago, but the other two seemed like perfect winter dishes so I just whipped them up for supper one day last month.

I made the soup in my crock pot and baked the zucchini bread along with it for supper. Wow! Talk about your good ol' vittles — these have got it!

Let's start off with a potato pie that's just as good for breakfast as it is for supper. I know, because that's what I had for breakfast and supper the day I made it.

Southwest Potato Pie

- 5 eggs, beaten
- 2 1/2 cups freshly shredded potatoes
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- 2/3 cup Picante sauce
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 6 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled or
- 1 sausage patty cooked and crumbled

Pour beaten eggs, cheese, potatoes, picante sauce, onions and salt into a large bowl and mix well. Pour into a greased 9-inch pie plate and bake at 350° for 25-30 minutes. Sprinkle with bacon or sausage and bake for 10-15 minutes longer.

Now there is one heck of a good Sunday brunch. Serve with some good hot biscuits with butter and jam and it don't get no better than this!

While going through one of my recipe bags last month I found these next two recipes that seemed to be made for each other, in as much as they both used Zucchini squash in them although they are from two different sources. There's nothing better for supper on a cold fall or winter evening than a bowl of hot soup and some fresh baked



bread. (One of my favorite boyhood memories is eating a big thick slice of hot bread fresh from the oven covered with melted butter and a big glass of cold milk!)

I mixed up this soup recipe one morning and put it in my crock pot and let it cook on low for about eight hours. When I came in from the shop that night I mixed up the Zucchini bread, popped it in the oven, and by the time I showered and built a fire in the fireplace supper was ready! I slept like a big ground squirrel laying in the sun on a big flat rock that night!

Italian Beef Soup

- 1/2 lb. lean ground beef
- 2 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1/2 cup green pepper, chopped
- 1/3 cup onion, chopped
- 1 - 28-oz. Can stewed tomatoes
- 3 medium Zucchini, chopped
- 2 cups water
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. beef bouillon granules
- 1/2 tsp. sugar
- pepper to taste

In a large skillet, cook beef,

onion, celery, and green pepper until beef is done and vegetables are tender. Pour into crock pot. Add everything else. Cook on low for 7-8 hours. Serve with your favorite grated cheese garnish.

My late aunt Rosalie used to fix soup that was very similar to this. She was a wonderful aunt and a great cook too. I learned what I know about Italian cooking from her. I know she would've liked this.

Now here's a bread that really goes with this sop just as naturally as Lester 'n' Earl. If I remember right, I cut this out of one of those fancy Gourmet books that a dentist I used to go to kept in his waiting room.

All I know is, it sure makes for a good, sturdy bread that you can "sop" up your soup with!

Zucchini-Cheddar Bread

- 2 1/2 cups biscuit/baking mix (I used Bisquick)
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 TSP fresh parsley, minced
- 1/2 tsp. dried basil

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STUDIO INSIDER

Continued from page 26
sound, and a thorough knowledge of these elements is a necessity for a bluegrass producer. If an otherwise great producer doesn't have the technical knowledge to achieve the needed sounds, then he or she must be able to communicate the acoustical goals to the recording engineer, so that the project can move forward coherently towards the goal of the final sounds on the album.

The producer's job is really to provide a zooming process, going from wide-angle vision to macro vision. It's to go from seeing and knowing the big picture down to knowing and specifying the details of instrument

and microphone choice, processing, and arranging in order to keep every small element aligned towards supporting the ultimate goal of a unified, cohesive piece of sonic artwork. And the great producers, technical and musical skills are matched only by their great people skills!

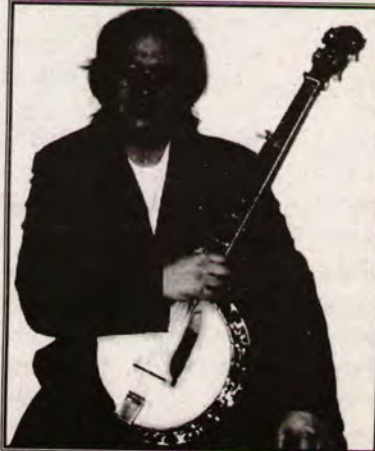
Joe Weed records acoustic music at his Highland Studio in Los Gatos, California. He has released five albums of his own, produced many projects for independent labels, and done sound tracks for film, TV and museums. You can reach Joe by calling (408)353-3353, or by email, at joe@highlandpublishing.com.

New Year's Music

Continued from page 26
the ear gets to be called "phonology", to distinguish it from morphology, derivation parameters, syntax and other terms of language study. And musicologists study and form rules about tone and time combinations and resolutions, just itching to discover the crux of the matter what about all this music is so enchanting and wondrous.


Trying to account for the power, mystique and appeal of music could be the happy enterprise of a lifetime. But most of us include other worthwhile pursuits to fill many of our waking hours. And so occasionally — like at the beginning of a year — we may take stock of our progress in our pursuits and make time available to focus on the abiding boons in our lives. So, it's January and we can express renewed and freshened appreciation for the awesome gift of music and its role in our lives.

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STANDARD INSTRUMENTS

San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival returns in February

by Chris Ereneta

Where can you take in performances by Peter Rowan, Ralph Stanley, John Reischman, The Kathy Kallick Band, and a reunion of the Any Old Time String Band, all in one week? No, it's not Louisville, it's San Francisco.

Following last year's week of sold-out and SRO shows, the San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival (SFBOTF) returns this February to multiple venues in San Francisco, Berkeley, and Mill Valley. This ten-day music series, sponsored by the NCBS with support from the CBA, has grown to encompass more events, more nationally touring acts, plus a program of films highlighting bluegrass music and Appalachian culture. Even the name has grown, to reflect the strong old-time current running through last year's Festival, that continues in the 2001 SFBOTF.

The anchor for the Festival is the Noe Valley Ministry. For twenty years Larry Kassins' Noe Valley Music Series has presented acoustic and eclectic music to the San Francisco community.

J.D.'s Kitchen

Continued from page 27

1/2 tsp. dried thyme
3 eggs beaten
1/4 cup milk
1 1/2 cups shredded Zucchini
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
3/4 cup chopped Almonds, toasted

Sauté onion in the butter until tender. Mix all ingredients together in a large bowl. Bake in a greased nine-inch pan at 400° for 25-30 minutes or until a knife comes clean from the center. Cut into squares. Zowie! Hot soup and hot bread!

All three of these would be real easy and perfect to fix up to have during the Bowl games this New Year's Day.

Well folks, that's it for the first edition of the ol' Bluegrass Kitchen for this brand new year. I hope that the coming year is a healthy and prosperous one for our nation as well as for all of you folks. Let us all pray for our country and for each other as well.

I'll see you all right here by the ol' cook fire next month, good Lord willing. Until then may God grant you all peace and health.

Yer friend,

J.D. Rhymes

Last year's Noe Valley Ministry show, featuring The Kathy Kallick Band, the Crooked Jades, and a reunion of the Blue Flame String Band, was the first time the series had ever sold out one of its concerts. This year the NVMS presents three of the SFBOTF's most exciting shows.

Opening night at the Noe Valley Ministry (Friday, February 2) features Peter Rowan, one-time lead singer for Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys, and founding member of the groundbreaking band Old and In The Way with Jerry Garcia and David Grisman. Peter packed houses throughout the Bay Area this past November with a series of bluegrass performances. If you missed those shows, you owe it to yourself to get to this event. Sharing the bill is old-time music's newest dynamic duo, Rayna Gellert & Frank Lee, in town on their first West Coast tour. Frank Lee, founding mem-

they'll feature songs from their third and latest CD, *The Unfortunate Rake, Volume One*.

On Saturday night, February 3, mandolin virtuoso John Reischman comes to the Noe Valley Ministry. Since his days performing with the Good Ol' Persons and the Tony Rice Unit, John has continued to expand his acoustic musical horizons, while maintaining his bluegrass roots. He has assembled a new top-flight bluegrass band called the Jaybirds, who make their Bay Area debut. The same night features the Bay Area's newest all-star band, the Bluegrass Intentions — Eric Thompson, Suzy Thompson, Alan Senauke, Bill Evans, and Larry Cohea. Together they offer a preposterously deep catalog of old-time, bluegrass, and country songs both familiar and obscure, presented in classic bluegrass style. Opening the show is Jackstraw, a high-energy band making con-



John Reischman



On Thursday, February 8 the Freight and Salvage presents Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys. The show will be opened by the old-time country "brother duet" sound of The MacRae Brothers.

Photo by Howard Gold

ber of the Freight Hoppers, made clawhammer banjo cool for a new generation (my own self included). Rayna Gellert played with the Freight Hoppers after the release of her solo old-time fiddle & banjo recording, *Ways of the World* (Yodel-Ay-Hee Records). Rounding out the evening are the Crooked Jades, San Francisco's own old-time/bluegrass rebels, with a sound plucked straight from the hills of Eastern Kentucky. This night

verts to traditional bluegrass in the rock clubs of Portland and the Pacific Northwest with their wild solos and eclectic mix of traditional and original songs.

The Kathy Kallick Band, last year's Festival headliner, returns to the Noe Valley Ministry the following Saturday, February 10. Since co-founding the Good Ol' Persons in 1975, Kathy has remained among the elite of songwriters and singers in contemporary bluegrass. The lead

and harmony vocals of Kathy and Amy Stenberg (bass), and the instrumental wizardry of Tom Bekeny (mandolin, fiddle) and Avram Siegel (banjo) keep audiences coming back to their outstanding live shows. This powerhouse night also features a reunion of the Any Old Time String Band, San Francisco's beloved all-woman string band from the 1970s, featuring Kate Brislin, Suzy Thompson, Sue Draheim, and Valerie Mindell. Their two

Arhoolie recordings were anthologized in 1996 on the CD *I Bid You Goodnight*. The SFBOTF presents the band's first public appearance in ten years. The first band of the night is Dark Hollow, who helped blaze the trail for the return of bluegrass to San Francisco after the closing of Paul's Saloon, with their hot picking and hard-driving sound. Their debut CD *Thrilling Stories* will be on sale.

Tickets for all three Noe Valley Ministry shows (\$17/\$16 advance, \$18 at door) are available at BASS outlets, or charge by phone at (510) 762-BASS. Tickets can be bought without a service charge by mail, or at select locations in San Francisco, Berkeley, and San Rafael. Call (415) 454-5238 or visit www.noevalleymusicseries.com for information.

This year the historic Freight & Salvage Coffee House in Berkeley (www.thefreight.org) joins forces with the San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival, presenting two shows by Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys. On Thursday, February 8 the show will be opened by the old-time country "brother duet" sound of The MacRae Brothers. Marin's resident country duet, Keystone Crossing, opens the show on Friday, February 9. Ralph typically sells out all his

Continued on page 29

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

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

California Based Bands

- **A Full Deck** — Bluegrass, Gospel, Old Time Country and Nostalgia music. For information or bookings, contact Corky Scott @ (559)855-2824, Bill Arave @ (559)855-2140, or E-mail bdrv@netptc.net.
- **Alhambra Valley Band** - Traditional and Original Bluegrass music. For information and bookings, please call Jill Cruey (925) 672-3242 or Lynn Quinones (925) 229-0365.
- **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>.
- **Arkansas Travelers** — Traditional Bluegrass Music and Comedy show by award-winning duo. For information and booking, call (831) 477-2172 or write 3507 Clayton Rd., 100, Concord, CA 94519.
- **Backcountry** — "a variety of acoustic music", including bluegrass, gospel, folk, newgrass, and acoustic jazz. Members play guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo and Dobro. Con-

- tact Doug Clark (408) 726-2322.
- **Back-In-Tyme**, for information or bookings, call 209-275-6626.
- **Backroads** — band members are Ted Irvin, guitar; Ida Gaglio, bass; Joe Zumwalt, mandolin; Ryan Richelson, dobro. For information and bookings, contact Ted Irvin and Ida Gaglio at 209-586-6445 or e-mail: tedenida@mlode.com. PA system available.
- **Tina Louise Barr** — master performer of the Autoharp. For information or bookings, call 209-480-4477 (message Hotline).
- **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.
- **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, phone (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **The Bluegrass Intentions** — traditional Bluegrass music. For information or bookings,

- contact Bill Evans at Native and Fine Music, 510 Santa Fe Ave., Albany, CA 94706-1440; call 510-528-1924; or e-mail: bevans@nativeandfine.com. February 3 — San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St. San Francisco, CA;
- **The Bluegrass Redliners** — for information or bookings, contact Dolly Mae Bradshaw, 425 Park Ave., Yorba Linda CA 92866.
- **Blue Shoes** — for bookings or information, call Pegleg Reza (209) 785-7726.
- **Blue to the Bone** — for information or bookings, contact JoAnne Martin, 3612 Tomahawk Ln., San Diego, CA 92117; 858-273-3048.
- **The Birch Lake Ramblers** — Bluegrass and eclectic acoustic music. Members play guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo, fiddle and Dobro. Contact Penny Godlis 408-353-1762 or Eric Burman 408-479-9511 for information or bookings or to be put on their mailing list. Email: bdsjmillier@aol.com.
- **Bluer Pastures** — bluegrass music. For bookings contact Glenn Sharp (818) 776-9343 or Jeff Kartak (818) 504-1933. Regular venue — Foley's Family Restaurant, 9685 Sunland Blvd., Shadow Hills, CA, 3 Sundays a month 5-8 p.m. (818)

- 353-7433.
- **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 e-mail: jimnunally@compuserve.com.
- **Brushy Peak Bluegrass Band** — contact (510) 443-5217; 532 Alden Lane, Livermore, CA 94550; e-mail: clarkga1@home.com; or web site: <http://www.ejthomas.com/brushypeak>.
- **Cache Valley Drifters**, c/o Wally Barnick, 4495 Sycamore Rd., Atascadero, CA 93422, (805) 466-2850; website: <http://www.mightyfine.net>.
- **Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower** — for bookings or information, contact Chris Stevenson (209) 853-2128, or e-mail renwah@sonnet.com.
- **Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band** — for information or bookings, contact Don Gerber at 760-247-6768 or e-mail: GERBERGRAS@aol.com.
- **The Circle R Boys** — bluegrass in the Kentucky Colonels tradition. Bob Waller, Steve Pottier, Paul Bernstein, and Josh Hadley. For information or bookings, contact banjar@jps.net.
- **The Circuit Riders of the Western Territory** — Western Bluegrass Gospel. For information or bookings, contact A.R. Danes, P.O. Box 1801, Susanville, CA 98130, phone 530-260-1687.
- **Compost Mountain Boys** — traditional Bluegrass music. For information, contact Wildwood Music, 10271 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 at (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.
- **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 web site 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.
- **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. February 18 — CBA President's Day Bluegrass Festival at Analy High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA;

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SF Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival

Continued from 28
Freight shows, so be sure to buy your tickets early. Advance tickets for both shows (\$19.50) are available at the Freight & Salvage box office, from all BASS outlets, by phone at (510) 762-BASS or (510) 601-TWEB, or on-line at www.ticketweb.com.

The progressive wave of bluegrass crests midweek, as banjo "madman" and innovator Tony Trischka plays a solo show at the Last Day Saloon in San Francisco on Wednesday, February 7th. Tony explores the banjo's future as well as its roots, dipping back into styles of playing from before Earl Scruggs was even born. Also on the bill is Radim Zenkl, pushing the boundaries of the mandolin with his fusion of bluegrass, jazz, classical, and eastern European music. His recordings have featured collaborations with David

Grisman, Jerry Douglas, Bela Fleck, and Tony Rice. Advance tickets (\$12) are available from TicketWeb, (510) 601-TWEB, or on-line at www.ticketweb.com.

The remainder of the week features performances by even more bands, including High Country, Sidesaddle & Company, the Dickel Brothers, stringbean, All Wrecked Up, the Circle R Boys, The David Thom Band, the Waybacks, Crane Canyon, and more. This year's Festival also features two different programs of "Appalachian Music & Culture on Film," including The Ralph Stanley Story, a new documentary by Appalshop Films, screening at the Fine Arts Cinema in Berkeley.

In the spirit of San Francisco's high tech culture, the Festival boasts an extensive website at www.sfbbluegrass.org,

with a complete on-line schedule, pointers to artist and venue websites, and links to on-line retailers from which you can order CDs and cassettes by the performers. Individuals without Internet connections are invited to call a toll free number (1-888-649-8101) to access a recorded schedule, or to have a printed schedule faxed to a machine near them within minutes.

Time will tell if the San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival will continue to grow as a music series (like the city's month-long Jazz Festival) or into a weekend hotel-based event (like Wintergrass in Tacoma). For now, though, the opportunity to enjoy your favorite acts in intimate venues in the City By the Bay is one you should try not to miss.

HELP WANTED

CBA Mercantile Coordinator Needed

A volunteer for the position of California Bluegrass Association Mercantile Coordinator is desperately needed. Montie Elston has agreed to take the job on an interim basis. He feels that Neale and Irene Evans did such a great job building it up that it would be tragic to let the position go unfilled even for a month or two. Want to know what's involved? Please give him a call at 530-749-9504. If you like bluegrass festivals, this might be a great volunteer position for you.

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

Continued from page 29

- **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. January 19 & 20 — Portland Old-Time Fiddle Festival at The Alberta Street Public House in Portland, OR; information call 503-235-9678; February 2 — San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St. San Francisco; February 18 — CBA President's Day Bluegrass Festival at Analy High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA; February 22-25 — Wintergrass Bluegrass Festival at Tacoma Sheraton Hotel and Convention Center, Tacoma, WA; Information www.wintergrass.com; June 14-17 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA;
- **Dark Hollow** — traditional Bluegrass band. Contact John Kornhauser (415) 752-0606 2102 Hayes #1, San Francisco, CA 94117 or Alan Bond (510) 845-2909, 2820 Benvenue #D, Berkeley, CA 94705 or <<http://www.webbnet.com/~Mandolin/dkhollow>> or Bonda@ceb.ucop.edu.
- **Doodoo Wah** — contact Ron DeLacy, P.O. Box 1500, Columbia, CA 95310 or phone (209) 533-4464. On the Worldwide Web at www.doodoowah.com. January 12 — Yeow!, State Theater, Modesto, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, the Foothillbillies & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 13 — Yeow!, Cubberley Community Center, Palo Alto, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, the Foothillbillies & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 20 — Yeow!, 24th Street Theater, Sacramento, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, the Foothillbillies & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 26 & 27 — Yeow!, Fallon House Theater, Columbia, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, the Foothillbillies & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower;
- **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 & western swing, bluegrass & more. For information & sound clips from our CDs, please visit our website: www.morningglorymusic.com or call 415-892-6550. e-mail: anniefidl@aol.com.
- **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: write to Native and Fine Music, 510 Santa Fe Ave., Albany, CA 94706-1440; call 510-528-1924; or e-mail: bevans@nativeandfine.com.
- **Peter Feldmann & The Very Lonesome Boys** — for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at 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 at (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **Foothillbillies** — old time string band music and other rural favorites. For information and bookings, call (209) 245-4534 or (209) 296-2601. January 12 — Yeow!, State Theater, Modesto, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, DooDoo Wah & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 13 — Yeow!, Cubberley Community Center, Palo Alto, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, DooDoo Wah & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 20 — Yeow!, 24th Street Theater, Sacramento, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, the DooDoo Wah & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower; January 26 & 27 — Yeow!, Fallon House Theater, Columbia, CA 8 p.m. with Sourdough Slim & Blackwood Tom, DooDoo Wah & Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower;
- **Fresh Picked Bluegrass Band** — for information or bookings, call 510-233-5027.
- **Frettin' Around** — Bluegrass, lively acoustic, including innovative styles performed on the autoharp. For bookings contact Tina Louise Barr at 209-480-4477 (message Hotline).
- **Gold Coast** — a California Bluegrass Band. For bookings or information, call Shelah Spiegel at 714-962-5083 or Greg Lewis at 310-426-2149 or e-mail Shelah at 102010.3276@CompuServe.com>
- **The Gold Rush Balladeers** — Music of the Gold Rush Days! For bookings: call Julie Johnson 209-533-2842 or e-mail us at: juliejohnsongold@hotmail.com.
- **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: rsthomas@calweb.com.
- **The Grass Menagerie** — for information and bookings contact Rick Cornish (408) 929-4174 or for an up to date schedule you can visit their web site at www.grassmenagerie.com.
- **Grassroots Bluegrass Band** — for information or bookings, call 916-354-0289 or website: Grassroots4@excite.com.
- **Richard Greene and the Grass is Greener** — for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: <http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html>.
- **Harmony Grits** — for information call Mike at (408) 685-0969 or Jim (408) 464-1104, or write P.O. Box 1598, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.
- **Haywired** — upbeat, acoustic folk-a-billy. For information or bookings, contact Mark Guiseponi in Stockton at (209) 465-0932.
- **The Heartland String Band** — Bluegrass, Traditional, Old Timey, touch of Irish. For information and bookings, call (209) 667-7279 or (209) 634-1190.
- **Hide the Whiskey** — for bookings or information, contact Chris Stevenson (209) 853-2128, write PO Box 130, La Grange, CA 95329, email renwah@sonnet.com or Pegleg Reza (209) 785-7726.
- **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. February 18 — CBA President's Day Bluegrass Festival at Analy High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA;
- **High Hills** — Contemporary, traditional and original Bluegrass music for all occasions; sound system if needed; for information and bookings, please call Leslie Spitz (818) 781-0836; email: highhill.pacbell.net or visit their website at <http://home.pacbell.net/highhill/>.
- **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.
- **Hwy 52** — San Diego-based traditional and original bluegrass band. Contact Wayne Dickerson, 1657 E. H St., Chula Vista, CA 91913, 619-421-8211, email Hwy52@aol.com or on the web at <http://members.aol.com/hwy52/>.
- **Igor's Jazz Cowboys** — for booking or information, call 480-894-8878 or website: www.igorsjazzcowboys.com.
- **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.
- **Just Kidding** - Performances for Children. Traditional American music. For information and bookings, please call Jill Cruy (925) 672-3242 or Lynn Quinones (925) 229-0365.
- **The Kathy Kallick Band** — for booking or information, write to P.O. Box 21344, Oakland, CA, 94620; call 510-530-0839; or e-mail: bgsignal@worldnet.att.net. February 10 — San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St. San Francisco, CA; February 18 — CBA President's Day Bluegrass Festival at Analy High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA;
- **Keystone Crossing** — Larry Carlin and Claudia Hampe sing songs of the brother duos. For bookings call Carlone Music at (415) 332-8498 or go to <http://www.carlone.com/kc.html>.
- **Laurel Canyon Ramblers** — for information or bookings, call Herb Petersen at 818 980-7478; e-mail: hp5stringer@aol.com or Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at (626) 799-2901
- **Laurie Lewis** — for booking information and schedule of performances, visit Laurie's web site at: www.laurielewis.com. Laurie Lewis, Tom Rozum and Bruce Molsky Winter's Grace Tour dates: January 6 — on A Prairie Home Companion, Fitzgerald Theater St. Paul, MN. Other upcoming gigs include: January 12 — Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals in concert at Moffat County High School in Craig, CO. For information, call 970/824-6561; January 14 — Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals perform at Lamar High School Lamar, CO; January 16 — Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals at Western New Mexico University in Silver City, NM; January 17 — Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals, perform at Crowder Hall, Tucson, AZ (520) 327-4809; January 18 — Laurie Lewis and Her Bluegrass Pals Mohave High School in Bullhead City, AZ; January 24 — Laurie Lewis at the Tractor Tavern, Seattle, WA;
- **Lone Prairie** — performs Vintage Western/Cowboy Music in the style of the great groups of the Thirties and Forties. For information and bookings contact Geri King at (831) 662-3749 or E-mail: saddlesong@dsldesigns.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 Dick Brown at (714) 744-5847 or Ken Orrick at (909) 280-9114. June 14-17 — 26th An-

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

- nual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, 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 1117 San Gallo Terrace, Davis, CA 95616; E-mail: MacRaeBrothers@Yahoo.com or web page: www.MacRaeBrothers.com. January 6 — Willow Glen Coffee Roasting Company, 7:30 p.m., 1383 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA; January 20 — 6:30 p.m. Live on KALW 91.7. Peter Thompson's excellent Bluegrass Signal radio program; January 20 — 8 p.m. at Cuppa UU Coffe House - Unitarian Church of San Mateo. 300 E Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo, CA; January 27 — Blue Rock Shoot, 8 p.m. at 14523 Big Basin Way, Saratoga. Shared bill with the Sibling Brothers; February 8 — San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival (Opening for Ralph Stanley) at the Freight & Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison, Berkeley, CA;
 - **Modern Hicks** — contemporary Bluegrass. For booking or information, call 707-544-6909. January 9 — Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley, CA; February 9 & 10 — The White Barn 2727 Sulphur Springs Ave., St. Helena, CA 8:00 p.m.. Tickets are \$25 call (707) 963-7002, Proceeds go to the Silverado chapter of the American Red Cross; March 10 — New College of California, 99 Sixth St., St Santa Rosa, CA, 8-10 p.m. For information, call 568-0112; June 14-17 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA;
 - **Mojave County Band** — bluegrass and Cajun music. For booking information contact: Tony Griffin, 4410 Cover St., Riverside, CA 92506. Phone (909) 784-5003 or Gary at (909) 737-1766.
 - **Mountain Laurel** — for booking and information, contact Doug Bianchi at 530-265-6743 or Paul Siese at 530-265-4328; ore-mail: dbianchi@nccn.net.
 - **Pacific Crest** — for information and bookings, call Steve Dennison at (805) 588-2436. June 14-17 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA;
 - **Past Due** — for information call (916) 265-4328 or (916) 265-8672; or E-mail: gsobonya@jps.net.
 - **Pleasant Valley** — (the Giacomuzzi Family Bluegrass Band), Contemporary style Bluegrass Music. For information or bookings, call (805) 987-2386.
 - **Radio Rail** — for information and bookings, contact Jackie or David, 2312 Jane, Mt. View, CA 94043, (415) 967-0290 or website: www.omix.com/radiorail.
 - **Red Dirt Bullies** — for booking or information, call Dennis Sullivan at 530-893-3967.
 - **The River City Boys** — for booking or information call (916) 454-5015 or (916) 457-0713.
 - **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, CA 95503, phone (707) 476-8843.
 - **Rural Delivery** — contact Larry or Carol Bazinet, 26185 Maitlin Rd., Romona, CA 92065, phone (619) 486-3437 or 789-7629.
 - **Saddle Rash Bluegrass Band** — for bookings and information, write to P.O. Box 5741, Tahoe City, CA 96145, or call (530) 581-1193.
 - **Sagebrush Swing** — Cowgirl Jazz with Pizzazz. For information or bookings, contact Barbara Ann at 650-854-5869; e-mail: babaccordn@aol.com; or Audrey via e-mail: pawdrey@earthlink.net.
 - **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.
 - **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.
 - **Skiffle Symphony** — for information or bookings, contact Elena Delisle at 707-792-2767. Eclectic jug band with a bluegrass flavor.
 - **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.
 - **Solid Air** — for information or bookings, write to P.O. Box 733, Penngrove, CA 94951; call 707-778-1466; fax: 707-778-3735; or e-mail: solidair@earthlink.net.
 - **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: SOURDO SLIM@aol.com; Website: www.sourdoughslim.com. January 12 — Yeow!, State Theater, Modesto, CA 8 p.m.; January 13 — Yeow!, Cubberley Community Center, Palo Alto, CA 8 p.m.; January 20 — Yeow!, 24th Street Theater, Sacramento, CA 8 p.m.; January 26 & 27 — Yeow!, Fallon House Theater, Columbia, CA 8 p.m.
 - **Spikedrivers** — "100% all-natural gnugrass". For information or bookings, write to Mike Ting, 6053 Chabot Rd, Oakland CA 94618; e-mail to: mktman@dante.lbl.gov or call (510) 652-3272.
 - **Spinning Wheel** — plays bluegrass, old time and irish traditional music For information and bookings contact: Mike Elliott phone (925) 228-1617 or e-mail: pje0222@aol.com
 - **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.
 - **stringbean** — Traditional bluegrass from the hills of San Francisco! For information and booking, e-mail: stringbean_sf@yahoo.com or web site: http://www.stringbean.org.
 - **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 1117 San Gallo Terrace, Davis, CA 95616 or e-mail at TallTimberBoys@Yahoo.com; web site: www.talltimberboys.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.
 - **Virtual Strangers** — (bluegrass) for information or bookings, call Jon Cherry at (619) 659-3699 or Mike Tatarat (619) 679-1225.
 - **The Waybacks** — Bluegrass? Newgrass? Crabgrass? YOU make the call. Flatpicked guitar, fiddle, mandolin, humanatone, fingerpicked guitar, doghouse bass, harmony vocals and percussion. For information and bookings, call (415) 642-2872 or website: at http://www.waybacks.com/html. January 6 — Freight & Salvage Coffee House, Berkeley, CA;
 - **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.
 - **Wild Blue** — Bluegrass trio featuring Elmo Shropshire on banjo. For bookings call Carlton Music at (415) 332-8498 or go to http://www.carlton.com/wild.html.
 - **The Wilton Prison Band** — traditional Bluegrass and New Grass. For booking or information, contact the Warden's Office — Drew Evans at (916) 344-8589.
 - **The Witcher Brothers** — for information or bookings, contact Dennis Witcher, P.O. Box 33903, Granada Hills, CA 91394, phone (818) 366-7713. Every Friday Night at Vincenzo's, 2955 Cochran, Simi Valley, CA. For information, call: 805-579-9962. June 14-17 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA;
 - **Dede Wyland Band** — for information or bookings, contact

Continued on page 32

Answers to Music Quiz

From page A3

1. Little Old Poplar Log House On The Hill.
 2. Jim — mandolin. Jesse — guitar. (They later switched instruments).
 3. Second place.
 4. Won by Jim and Jesse's father, Claude McReynolds, playing clawhammer banjo.
 5. Charlie McReynolds (fiddle) and the Bull Mountain Moonshiners.
 6. James Monroe (Jim): 2/13/27. Jesse Lester: 7/9/29. Both in Coeburn, Virginia, but lived just outside of Carfax, in between tiny towns of Coeburn and St. Paul, in Wise County, Virginia.
- 6 correct = prodigy 3 correct = good
5 correct = outstanding 1-2 correct = fair
4 correct = excellent

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

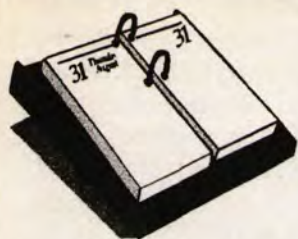
Continued from page 31

tact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at (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

- **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@bluegrassworld.com.
- **The Back Forty** — bluegrass and traditional music. For bookings and information, call Vicki Hass at 775-882-6013.



**Mark Your Calendar...
The CBA
Spring
Campout
will be held on
the
weekend of
April 27-29, 2001
at the
Gold Country
Fairgrounds on old
Hwy 49 in
downtown
Sonora, CA.**

RV camping \$15
Tent camping \$10
per night per unit

For more information
contact Bob Thomas at
916-989-0993 or
sacbluegrass@yahoo.com,

- **Bluegrass Patriots**, for bookings and information, 1807 Essex Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80526, or call (970) 482-0863. Complete schedule on website at: www.bluegrasspatriots.com.

- **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.

- **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. June 14-17 — 26th annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA;

- **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; web site: www.daleann.com.

- **Continental Divide**, for booking or information, contact David Parmley at (615) 824-4399.

- **Sharon Cort & New River Ranch**, for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at (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 at 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: Class_Act@compuserve.com; website: www.classactentertainment.com.

- **Dan Crary**, for information or bookings, contact Class Act Entertainment at 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: Class_Act@compuserve.com; website: www.classactentertainment.com.

- **J.D Crowe and the New South**, for information and bookings, contact: Philibuster Entertainment, Phil Leadbetter at (423) 688-8855; e-mail: philibuster1@yahoo.com.

- **Jerry Douglas**, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-

4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX.

- **Dry Branch Fire Squad**, for information and bookings contact Bill Evans at 510-234-4508; e-mail: bevans@nativeandfine.com.

- **The Fox Family** for information or bookings, contact Dana Thorin, Hourglass Entertainment at (626) 799-2901; e-mail: dthorin@flash.net; website: http://WMPUB.com/hourglass.html.

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

- **The Grasshoppers** — For information and bookings, contact Glen Garrett at (208) 465-0399. June 14 & 15 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, CA.

- **High Plains Tradition**, For booking and information, contact Chuck Tinsley at (303) 601-4113; e-mail: HighPlainsTradition@yahoo.com; or visit their web site: http://www.banjo.com/Profiles/HPT.html.

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

- **Steve Kaufman**, for information about concerts, workshops and bookings, call 1-800-FLATPIK or outside US call (615) 982-3808.

- **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; E-mail: DLQkslvr@aol.com; website: www.doylelawson.com.

- **Lonesome River Band**, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. June 16 & 17, 2001 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA.

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

- **Claire Lynch and the Front**

Porch String Band, for information and bookings contact Class Act Entertainment at 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: Class_Act@compuserve.com; website: www.classactentertainment.com.

- **Del McCoury Band**, for information and bookings contact RS Entertainment Offices, 329 Rockland Road, Hendersonville, TN 37075, phone 615-264-8877.

- **Lynn Morris Band**, 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.classactentertainment.com. June 16 & 17, 2001 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, 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.

- **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.

- **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 Arter at (503) 632-4616. Check out their Web Site at <http://www.Swift Site.com/nostringsattached>

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

- **Northern Pacific**, for information and booking contact Trisha Tubbs, P.O. Box 601, Woodinville, WA 98072-0601; phone 425-481-7293; or e-mail: trishtubbs@aol.com.

- **Tim O'Brien & Darrell Scott**,

for information and bookings, contact Class Act Entertainment at 615-262-6886, FAX 615-262-6881; e-mail: Class_Act@compuserve.com; website: www.classactentertainment.com.

- **Peter Rowan**, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. February 2 — San Francisco Bluegrass & Old-Time Festival at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd St. San Francisco;

- **Sam Hill**, for information and bookings, contact Doug Sammons at 503-647-2350; or E-mail at DeeannBG@aol.com.

- **Seldom Scene**, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. June 16 & 17, 2001 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA.

- **Ron Spears and Within Tradition**, c/o CBJK Music, 4895 Pavant Ave., West Valley City, UT. 84120. Phone 801 955-1978. June 14 - 17, 2001 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA.

- **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@worldstd.com> May 18 — Fresno, CA Concert for the Fresno Folklore Society. (7:30 pm) 209-456-0453. Call for location; May 19-20 — Mariposa, CA Gold Rush Bluegrass Festival, 1-800-903-9936. Triumphant return to this lovely fest!

- **Larry Sparks and the Lonesome Ramblers**, for information and bookings, contact Larry Sparks, P.O. Box 505, Greenburg, IN 47240, (812) 663-8055.

- **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.

UPCOMING BLUEGRASS, OLD-TIME & GOSPEL EVENTS

JANUARY

- January 2-6 — **Pete Wernick's Basic Skills Winter Banjo Camp** at the Sandy Point Inn in Boulder, Colorado. "A friendly, safe situation to learn. Lots of jamming with everyone participating at their own level." For information or registration, contact Pete Wernick by writing to: Dr. Banjo, 7930 Oxford Rd., Niwot, CO 80503; call 303-652-8346; e-mail: pete@petewernick.com; or website: www.petewernick.com.
- January 9-13 — **Pete Wernick's Intermediate/Advanced Winter Banjo Camp** at the Sandy Point Inn in Boulder, Colorado. Tailored to players who have played in groups. For information or registration, contact Pete Wernick by writing to: Dr. Banjo, 7930 Oxford Rd., Niwot, CO 80503; call 303-652-8346; e-mail: pete@petewernick.com; or website: www.petewernick.com.
- January 13 — **Redwood Bluegrass Associates presents A Winter Night's YEOW!** Bluegrass, western and old time vaudeville with Doo Doo Wah, the Foothillbillies and Sourdough Slim & the Saddle Pals (aka Prairie Flower & Cactus Bob). Concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Cubberley Community Center Theater, 4000 Middlefield Rd. in Palo Alto, CA. Tickets: \$15 in advance; \$18 at the door. For information or tickets, visit www.rba.org or call 650-691-9982.
- January 19 & 20 — **Portland Old-Time Fiddle Festival** at The Alberta Street Public House in Portland, OR. Featuring: The Crooked Jades, The Dickel Bros., The Bristol Sisters (from Seattle), Pig Iron & Salty Gravy (from Idaho). Square dance on 1/20. Call Michael at (503)235-9678 or email trainonfire@excite.com for more information or crjades@aol.com.
- January 19-21 — **Colorado River Bluegrass Festival** at the Colorado River Country Fairgrounds in Blythe, CA. Featuring entertainment by: David Davis & the Warrior River Boys, High Plains Tradition, Out of the Blue, the Schankman Twins, True Blue, Within Tradition, the Colorado River Boys and more. Event also includes

fiddle, banjo, specialty instrument, mandolin, Flat Pick Guitar and Band Scramble contests for a total of \$4800 in prize money. For information, contact the Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce, 201 S. Broadway, Blythe, CA 92225; phone 760-922-8166; or FAX 760-922-4010.

- January 20 — **2nd Annual Gospel Concert** featuring the Dry Branch Fire Squad and the Reunion Quartet, 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Fair Oaks, 4401 San Juan Avenue, Fair Oaks, CA. Sponsored by the CBA in cooperation with the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association. There is an ad and a ticket order form in this issue for your convenience. For further information, call Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or e-mail at: sacbluegrass@yahoo.com.
- January 26 & 27 — **Imperial Valley String Fling 2001**, Imperial Valley Expo Grounds, Imperial, CA. For information, call Lynn Neal at 760-352-6362.
- January 27 - February 3 — **17th Annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering**, Elko, NV. Poetry, art, gear, stories and songs of the Great Basin. For information, visit www.westernfolklife.org or call 888-880-5885.

FEBRUARY

- February 1 - 4 — **23rd Annual Ajo Old-time Fiddlers Contest**, Ajo Moose Lodge, Ajo, AZ. For more information, contact Cindy Hunter at 520-387-7466 or email: tuffyd@tds.net.
- February 1 - 4 — **18th Annual SPBGMA Music Awards and Convention** at the Sheraton Music City Hotel, Nashville, TN. For information, call 660-665-7172 or e-mail: spbgma@kvmo.net.
- February 2-4 — **Colorado River Bluegrass Festival**, Bullhead City, AZ. Featuring: Lost & Found, Schankman Twins, Flint Hill Special, Marty Warburton Band, Witcher Brothers, Spring Valley Breakdown, Colorado River Boys, Palmer Family, Bladerunners, Out of the Blue, the Lamkin Family, Cherryholmes Family, the Tylers and the Mountain Cloggers. For information, call 520-768-5819 or visit their web site at: www.coloradobluegrassfestival.com.

- February 16 - 18 — **23rd Annual Bluegrass Music Festival** at the Hannibal Inn in Hannibal, MO. Sponsored by the Tri-State Bluegrass Association. Featuring: Blue & Gray Pickers, James Monroe, the Sullivan Family, the Lewis Four, Bob & Barb, and Charlie Lawson & Oak Hill. For information, call 573-853-4344.

- February 16-18 — **Mid-Winter Bluegrass Festival** at the Northglenn Holiday Inn, Denver, CO. Indoor show and jamming in balmy, Holidome-equipped, Holiday Inn. Featuring: Lynn Morris Band, The Isaacs, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Dan Crary, Little Ryan Holladay, Al & Emily Cantrell, First Impression, The Faris Family, High Plains Tradition, Bluegrass Patriots, Black Rose, Wing & A Prayer, South Wind String Band, Close Ties and many more. In addition there will be a youth "fiddle fest", the Great Rocky Mountain Band Scramble, workshops and more. Presented by Seaman Productions. For information or tickets, contact Ken Seaman via e-mail at: bluegras@verinet.com, phone (970) 482-0863 or visit the website at www.bluegrasspatriots.com. There is an ad in this issue with further details on tickets and room reservations.

- February 17 & 18 — **6th Annual Pioneer Bluegrass Days Festival**, at the Living History Museum in Pioneer, AZ. Featuring: Jim and Jesse & the Virginia Boys, the Kruger Brothers, Lost Highway, the Shady Creek Band, the Grasswhackers, Flint Hill Special, Jam Pack Blues 'n' Grass Neighborhood Band, CC & Kim, AZ 2000 bands: Green Sky, Clear Blue, Gold Rush & more; plus a special reunion of Front Page News and a Saturday night barbecue dinner show with the McNasty Brothers. The festival also offers dry camping, jams, music workshops, kids activities, a working old western town, RV exhibit, and a Sunday Morning workshop service. For information, call Candice Bebberr-Miracle at 625-842-1102 or e-mail: Theabma@aol.com.
- February 18 — **Presidents' Day Bluegrass Festival** at the Anal High School Theater in Sebastopol, CA. Presented by

the California Bluegrass Association in conjunction with the Sonoma County Folk Society. Doors open at noon; show from 1 to 8 p.m. Entertainers are: Kathy Kallick and Nina Gerber, High Country, Crane Canyon Ramblers, the Crooked Jades, and the ACME String Ensemble. Tickets are \$13 advance for CBA, NCBS and SCFC members and \$15 for the general public. Prices at the door will be \$2 higher per ticket. For more information, call Mark Hogan at 707-829-8012 or e-mail: hogiemoon@dellnet.com. There is an See the ad in this issue with a ticket order form for your convenience.

- February 22 - 24 — **Old Time Fiddling at the County Fair Mall** in Woodland, CA. Sponsored by the County Fair Mall and California State Old-Time Fiddler's Association #5. Organizer, Gloria Bremer says: "Come join us for a hand clapping, toe tapping, fiddle jam." Free RV parking in the Mall parking lot (no hookups). For information, call Gloria Bremer at 530-662-7908 or Bob Dawson, 530-662-6576.
- February 22-25 — **Wintergrass** at the Sheraton Hotel & Convention Center, Tacoma, WA. Huge, powerhouse indoor show with multiple stages and a string of shuttle-connected hotels. Entertainers include: Dry Branch Fire Squad, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Auldridge Bennett & Gaudreau, Rice/Rice Hillman & Pedersen, New Grange, Crooked Jades, The Waybacks, and many more. For information, call 253-926-4164 or web site: www.wintergrass.com.
- February 24-25 — **WinterFolk Music Festival** at the Pagosa Springs Auditorium, Pagosa Springs, CO. Brand new offering from the Four Corners Folk Festival. Indoor show with hotels and hot springs nearby in the town of 8000 at the western foot of Wolf Creek Pass in southern Colorado. Line-up includes: Tim O'Brien & Darrell Scott, Eddie From Ohio, Lucy Kaplansky, Kelly Joe Phelps, Chuck Brodsky, and more. Presented by FolkWest. For information, visit their website at: www.folkwest.com

MARCH

- March 2 & 3 — **7th Annual Buckeye Bluegrass & Old Time Country Revue**, Buckeye, AZ. For information, call 623-386-2316.
- March 30-31 — **Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival** at the Melody Ranch in Santa Clarita, CA. Featuring: Don Edwards, Cowboy Celtic, Sons of the San Joaquin, Sourdough Slim and Waddie Mitchell. For information, call 530-872-1187.

APRIL

- April 6 - 8 — **14th Annual Old Settler's Music Festival** at the Stone Mountain Event Center in Dripping Springs, TX. For more information, write to P.O. Box 28287, Austin, TX 78755-8187; e-mail: info@bluegrassfestival.com; or website: www.bluegrassfestival.com.
- April 26 - 29 — **Merlefest 2001** on the campus of Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro, NC. Many more performers than we have space to list on multiple stages. Advance tickets no on sale. For tickets: www.merlefest.org; phone 800-343-7857; FAX 336-838-6277; or write to MerleFest, P.O. Box 1299, Wilkesboro, NC 28697-1299. For festival information or to request a brochure, call 800-343-7857 or visit the festival website at: www.merlefest.org.

MAY

- May 11 - 13 — **3rd Annual Mother's Day Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival** in Parkfield, CA. Featuring: Chris Jones & the Night Drivers, Witcher Brothers, Copperline, Nine Pound Hammer, Grateful Dudes, Lonesome Road, Parkfield Pea Hens, Rude Rudes, Phil Salazar Band, Wild Sage and more. For information, visit the web site at www.camprude.com.
- May 17 - 19 — **Pasture Pickin'** at Arbuckle Mountain Bluegrass Paark between Wynnewood and Davis, OK. Free admission. Water and electric hookups are \$7 per day and rough camping is \$2 per day. For more information, contact Allen and Rosemary Bowen at 405-665-5226 or e-mail: rosemary@brightok.net.

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Where Can I Go to Hear or Play Some Music?

California Bluegrass Association or Member Sponsored Jams

- **Alameda - Thin Man Strings**, 1506 Webster Street, 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.)
- **Copperopolis - Bluegrass jam** the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month 7 p.m. until 7 at the Old Corner Saloon, 1/2 Mile off Hwy 4 on Main Street in Copperopolis, California. Sponsored by Fred and Melinda Stanley. For more information, call (209) 785-2544.
- **Folsom - All gospel jam**, 2nd Saturday of each month, 6 - 10 PM, Landmark Baptist Church at 609 Figueroa St., Folsom, (one block south of Sutter St.) contact Don Williams 916 983-5638.
- **Orangevale - Weekly Bluegrass jams**, every Wednesday from 7-10:30 p.m. at Serve Our Seniors, 9281 Oak Ave. at Telegraph Ave. 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.
- **San Anselmo: The ongoing Marin Bluegrass Jam** has a new location. The jam will be held at Round Table Pizza, Red Hill Shopping Center in San Anselmo. Host Larry Carlin says we need to eat a lot to make this new location go. So, eat while you jam. Every other Thursday, 8 p.m. For information, e-mail: lcarlin@carl tone.com or phone (415) 332-8498.
- **San Jose - Bluegrass Open Mic** from 7 to 10:30 p.m. the 1st Tuesday of every month at Waves Smokehouse and Saloon, 65 Post Street, downtown San Jose, CA (just off Highway 87). Sponsored by the South Bay California Bluegrass Association, the Northern California Bluegrass Society (SCBS), and Waves Smokehouse and Saloon. For table reservations or directions, visit Waves' website at www.waves-smokehouse.com/; or call CBA's South Bay Activities V.P. Roger Siminoff at 408-395-1652 or e-mail: siminoff@apple.com.

siminoff@apple.com.

- **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 - Bluegrass Jam** at the VFW Hall, Corner of 9th & C Streets, 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.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 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 - Fiddlers Jam** at the 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 - Fiddlers Jam** at Wells Park Center, 1153 Madison, El Cajon, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Omer Green at (619) 748-3493 for details.
- **Fresno - Jam** at the 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 - Jam** at the Masonic Hall, 5918 Parkcrest St. in Lakewood, CA, 1st Sunday from 1-4 p.m. For information, call (562) 425-9123.
- **Merced - Fiddler's Jam** at the 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 - Jam session** at the Oak View Community Center, 18 Valley Rd., Oak View, CA. 2nd & 4th Sunday 12-4 p.m. For information, call Margaret Kirchner at (805) 646-3100.
- **Oildale - Jam session** at 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 - Fiddlers Jam** at

the 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 - Jam session** at Thermalito Grange, 479 Plumas Ave., Oroville, CA on the fourth Sunday each month from 1-4:30 p.m. The Grange hall is located west of Grand Ave. exit off Hwy. 70. For information, call Bob Hedrick at 530-589-4844, or Email: BCH462@webtv.net.
- **Shasta - Fiddlers Jam** at the New School, Red Bluff Drive, 1st Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Bob Burger at (916) 549-4524 for further information.
- **Williams - Jam session** at the Veteran's Memorial Hall, 9th & C St., Williams, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.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.
- **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.
- **Sacramento - The 5th String Music Store**, 930 Alhambra Blvd. At J Street in Sacramento. Bluegrass Jam every Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. plus regularly scheduled house concerts. 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. Bluegrass jam session each month between 8:30 PM and 11:30 PM. Call Carlos at 916-806-2545 for further information.

Independent Clubs

- **Boulder Creek - Bluegrass Jam** every second Sunday, 1-5 p.m. at Rainbow's End, 13266 Hwy. 9, Boulder Creek. For

Continued on page 36

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Continued from page 33

- **May 20 - 41st Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival** in Agoura Hills, CA. For information, call 818-382-4819.

JUNE

- **June 7, 8 & 9 - Christopher Run Bluegrass** on Lake Anna near Mineral, VA. Featuring: Rhoda Vincent, David Davis & the Warrior River Boys, Country Current, Blue Highway, the Lewis Family, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Charlie Waller & the Country Gentlemen, Ramona Church and Carolina Road, Ralph Stanley, the Karl Shifflet & Big Country Show, and more. For information, write to Christopher Run Campground, 7149 Zachary

Taylor Hwy. Mineral, VA 23117 or call 540-894-4744.

- **June 14-17 - 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Patrial line-up includes: Longview, Lynn Morris Band, Lonesome Highway, Seldom Scene, James King Band, Kathy Kallick and ta Good Ol' Persons reunion, Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley, Lost Highway, Jimmy Bowen and Santa Fe, Vince Combs, Keith Little, the Grasshoppers, the New Piney Creek Weasels, the Bladerunners, Witcher Brothers, Pacific Crest, the Crooked Jades, Modern Hicks and more to be added. For general information, call

209-293-1559; FAX 209-293-1220 or e-mail: cbawpn@volcano.net. For advance ticket information, call David Runge at 707-762-8735.

- **June 18 - 23 - National Oldtime Fiddlers' Convention and Festival** in Weiser, ID. For information, call 1-800-437-1280.

JULY

- **July 13 - 15 - 8th Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival** at Bolado Park, the San Benito County Fairgrounds, 2 miles south of Tres Pinos, California. The festival is a celebration of California bluegrass music, and will feature approximately 25 California bands on the main stage. Advance dis-

count tickets now on sale. For information, call (408) 353-1762 or e-mail: pennyg44@gte.net.

SEPTEMBER

- **September 13 -15 - 2nd Annual Arbuckle Mountain Bluegrass Festival** at the Bluegrass Park between Wynewood and Davis, OK. Featuring: Twice as Nice, the Village Singers, Salt Grass, Flint Hill Special, the Arbuckles, High Ground, Cedar Ridge, Boggy River Bluegrass, and Mary McDonald and Touch of Grass. For information, contact Allen and Rosemary Bowen at 405-665-5226 or e-mail: rosemary@brightok.net.

CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Bluegrass Festival line-up enhanced

Featured bands and California Band Showcases announced

CBA board members and festival coordinators are busy making plans to produce our 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. This year's dates are June 14 to 17, 2001 and early bird discount tickets are now on sale through February 28.

This year's line-up of talent promises to be one of our best ever. Specially featured artists are Longview, Seldom Scene, Lonesome River Band, Lynn Morris Band, James King Band and Kathy Kallick and the Good Ol' Persons Reunion. The Emerging Artist band is Ron Spears &

Within Tradition.

Added this month after the band selection committee's meeting are featured bands Lost Highway, Jimmy Bowen and Santa Fe, Vince Combs and the Shadetree Bluegrass Boys, the Keith Little Band, the Grasshoppers, Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley and the New Piney Creek Weasels. California Showcase Bands are the Bladerunners, the Witcher Brothers, Pacific Crest, the Crooked Jades and the Modern Hicks. Kids on Bluegrass will also be performing this year and a clogging group is expected to be added to the line-up.

Festival Director Montie Elston is responsible for keeping

all of the rest of us on task and on the time line. More than 250 volunteers are needed to produce our annual festival and new people are always welcome. If you would like to become a part of the CBA festival team, call volunteer coordinator Suzanne Sullivan at 805-239-9445.

Festival Security Coordinator Yvonne Gray would like to ask all people with handicaps who need special camping accommodations to contact her and make reservations prior to May 1, 2001. You can call Yvonne at 209-951-3129. There are a limited number of handicapped camping spots and reservations

are required.

CBA members receive special early bird discounts on their festival tickets by ordering before February 28, 2001. There is a ticket order form on page 16 of this issue for your convenience. For further information on ticket orders, please call David Runge at 707-762-8765.

In addition to the entertainment on stage there will be a four-day children's program, workshops, jam sessions and a variety of food, soft drink, music and craft vendors on site. Camping on the fairgrounds is included in all three and four day tickets. Early camping (June 11-13) is

available for \$15 per night per unit.

Please remember that absolutely no pets are allowed on the fairgrounds. This makes sense to those of us who like to walk around the camping area at night and listen to jam sessions — can you imagine the mess if everyone brought their pets? There are kennels in the Grass Valley area but arrangements need to be made early. Call the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce at 530-273-4667 for information.

We hope you'll plan to bring your family and friends and join us this June for our 26th annual bluegrass festival.



to find 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.
- Blue Rock Shoot, 14523 Big Basin Way, Saratoga, CA; phone 408-867-3437.
- Espresso Garden, 814 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. Bluegrass and other acoustic music performances. For information on performers, call Dick at 408-292-7940 or website: www.fiddlingcricket.com. For food information, call the restaurant at 408-298-0808.
- The 5th String Music Store, 930 Alhambra at J Street, Sacramento, CA. For information, call (916) 442-8282. Bluegrass Jam Session every Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. House Concert Series Performances times and prices vary - call for information.
- The Fox And Goose Public House, 1001 R street, Sacramento, California. 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 website at: www.thefreight.org

- January 6 — The Waybacks;
- January 9 — Modern Hicks;
- January 15 — John McCutcheon, January 18 — Dry Branch Fire Squad; January 20 — Marley's Ghost Album Release party; January 21 — Jesse Winchester; February 1 — International Guitar Night; February 8 & 9 — Ralph Stanley; February 16 — Trout Fishing in America; February 22 — Alison Brown;
- Maytan Music Center & Coffee House, 777 South Center St., Reno, NV 89501, (702) 323-5443.
- Last Day Saloon, 406 Clement St. (at 6th Ave.) in San Francisco, CA 94118; phone: 415-387-6343 or e-mail: fivearms@yahoo.com. "American Roots Music" on Wednesday nights, featuring bluegrass, country/western and folk music. Call for information and times.
- 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.

- Michelangelo's Pizza Parlor, downtown Arcata, California. Live acoustic music every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night from 7-9 p.m., no cover charge. Bluegrass music on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday with Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party. Other music includes Irish, Country, Dixieland, and Folk. For information, call (707) 822-7602.
- Miner's Foundry Cultural Center, 325 Spring Street, Nevada City, CA. For information, call (916) 265-5040.
- Mr. Toot's Coffee House, upstairs over Margueritaville in Capitola Village, CA. For information, call 831-475-3679. Tangled Strings — bluegrass every Sunday night from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Murphy's Irish Pub, on the east side of the square in downtown Sonoma, California. Acoustic jam session (Celtic primarily) 1st Sunday of the month from 6 PM until it's over. 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 e-mail: murphy@vom.com.
- Musician's Coffeehouse, Mt. Diablo Unitarian-Universal Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA. For informa-

- tion call (510) 229-2710.
- The Neighborhood Church, in Pasadena, California. For information, call (818) 303-7014.
- 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. January 17 - John McCutcheon; February 18 - Blue Highway; February 15 - Trout Fishing in America; March 3 - Golden Bough;
- 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 philfishmarket.com.
- 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 Bluegrass music by a variety of local bands — call ahead for details. Diana and the Yes Ma'ams perform every 3rd Wednesday from 6-9 p.m.
- 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.
- Smokin' Johnnie's BBQ, 11720 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, CA. Phone 818-760-1623. 1st Saturday of every month Bluegrass and Swing Acoustic Music Showcase, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. sponsored by Traditional Music.
- The Steakout Restaurant, located behind McDonald's in Placerville, CA.
- Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call (415) 388-2820.
- Waves Smokehouse and Saloon, 65 Post Street, San Jose, CA 95113; phone 408-885-9283. Bluegrass Open Mic on

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Where Can I Go to Hear/Play Some Music?

Continued from page 34

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. Jams, 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.

• 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 teNyenhuys, 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.

• Manteca - Delta Old Time Fiddlers and Bluegrass Association, 1st and 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. For information on the music phone Keith Hayes at (831) 375-2975.

• San Diego - San Diego Bluegrass Club events -- for information, call (619) 286-1836.



CBA was well represented at the IBMA World of Bluegrass in Louisville, KY this past October. Hospitality Suite volunteers are pictured here left to right (back row) Bill Davies, Tom Davies, John Duncan, Michael Lewis, George Martin, George Ireton, Bob Gillim, Dorothy Gillim and Carl Pagter. Kneeling in front are Frank Solivan Sr., Bill Schmidt, Allen Light and Kathy Davies.

Places to find music

Continued from page 31
 the first Tuesday of every month, 7 to 10:30 p.m. Bring your friends, instruments to jam, pick with your friends and get your place on our stage (4 songs/set). See you there! For information, call CBA South Bay Activities Vice President

Roger Siminoff at 408-395-1652 or e-mail: siminoff@apple.com.

• 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.



Start the New Year off right with CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION LOGO MERCHANDISE ITEMS

Send in your order today for: • Baseball Caps • Bumper Stickers
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 • Embroidered Denim Jackets • Golf Shirts, Henleys, T-shirts
 Sweatshirts • Jackets and Windbreakers • Sports Bottles • Visors
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 And Much, Much More.

Ball Cap - Black Embroidered	\$15.00
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Button - Instrument related sayings	\$1.00
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20th Anniversary Recording of Father's Day Festivals 1-19	
Compact Disc	-\$7.00
Cassette Tape	-\$5.00
CBA Logo Decal	50¢
CBA Member Decal	50¢
Golf Shirt - M-XXL	\$15.00
Henley Shirt - Natural L-XXL	\$18.00
Henley Shirt - White L-XXL	\$15.00
Henley Shirt - Blk, Grn, Dk Gray, L-XXL	\$20.00
Baseball Jacket - M - XXL	\$30.00
Drink Koozie	\$2.00
Label Pin/25th Annual Festival	\$5.00
Leather Tie - Black, Clip-on Asst. Beads	\$10.00
License Plate Frame	\$2.00

Sports Bottle - Large/32-oz.	\$5.00
Sweatshirt, white S, M, L, XL, XXL	\$20.00
Sweatshirt - Black, Green, L, XL, XXL	\$25.00
Tote Bag - Small	\$6.00
Tote Bag - Large	\$10.00
Thermal Mug - 22-oz.	\$7.00
Thermal Mug - 34-oz.	\$9.00
T-Shirts - White S - XXXL	\$10.00
T-Shirts - Black, Green, Lt. Gray, M-XXXL	\$14.00
1999 CBA Festival T-shirts, gray, XL only	\$10.00
Visor - Yellow/Gold Terrycloth	\$5.00
Denim Jacket, Embroidered, S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL & XXXXL	\$95.00
Name on front of above jacket	\$10.00
Windbreaker - M, L, XL & XXL	\$25.00

Sub Total
 Shipping: \$1.00 through \$10.99 - add \$4.00
 \$11.00 and up - add \$6.00
 TOTAL
 ENCLOSED \$

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Make checks payable to The California Bluegrass Association, and mail payment and order blank to:

California Bluegrass Association Mercantile
 c/o Montie Elston
 4828 Western Avenue
 Olivehurst, CA 95961-4125
 For information, call 530-749-9504
 or E-mail: fiddle3@syix.com