



BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

Vol. 26 No. 11

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

March 2001

CBA to present Brother Duets concert in Davis March 9 in Davis

The California Bluegrass Association is proud to present An Evening of Old-time Country, Pre-Bluegrass Brother Duets at 8 p.m. at the Davis Art Center located at 1919 F Street in Davis, California.

Matt Dudman has again put together a show with several of the best duos on the West Coast. This time the show features Grammy finalists Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin, as well as the Waller Brothers, including High Country founder Butch Waller and his brother Bob. Also included on the bill are the MacRae Brothers, an authentic local duet act.

The preservation of old-time country music, especially that of the brother duet acts of the 1930's, 40's and 50's is a goal of each and every one of these great musical teams. This performance is inspired by the musical performances of the brother acts that took place over half of a century ago in the rural Southland.

If you are not familiar with the brother duet genre, you are in for a treat. It is a pre-bluegrass music which focuses on close two-part harmony with spare instrumental accompaniment (usually mandolin and guitar or two guitars). The beautiful sound that can be achieved when two voices — especially those of siblings — find that 'perfect harmony' is indescribable. Acts such as the Monroe Brothers, Delmore Brothers, and Blue Sky Boys and others made this genre popular back in the 1930's, 1940's and 1950's. Most consider the Louvin Brothers, however, the greatest harmony act of all time.

A rock-n-roll form of the brother duet act was made internationally famous by the Everly Brothers. Although more bluegrass oriented, both the Stanley Brothers and Jim and Jesse have brother duet inklings. Even today, national acts such as the Whitstein Brothers, from Louisiana, and the Williamson Brothers, from North Carolina, con-

tinue the tradition with pride and a great deal of talent. The performers at this show have dedicated themselves to achieving that special sound. We are lucky to have so much of this

the hard-shell hucksterism that has so thoroughly contaminated not only the music business but so much of our modern culture. Jody and Kate have taken nearly forgotten forms and infused them

knows yet that Butch also sings with his brother Bob in the old-time 'brother duet' style. Recently, Butch's younger brother Bob has been making his mark in the fiercely traditional ® Boys

bluegrass band, featuring Steve Pottier and other hot Bay Area bluegrass musicians. After hearing his brother's band the Pine Valley Boys in the mid 1960's,

See BROTHER on page A-4



Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin

music right here in Northern California, and this concert is intended to feature the local talent, as well as provide information and education in the brother duet style.

Already extremely popular in the S.F. Bay Area, and in various "bluegrass pockets" across the country and even world, international touring and recording artists Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin will be making their Sacramento area debut with this concert. Their current album, Songs of The Carter Family, is on Appleseed Records, and two of their five previous recordings for Rounder Records were Grammy finalists. Kate's "sister duet" album with Katy Moffat was so good it prompted a Tennessee radio listener to request "more Donna and Phyllis"! (hee hee)

"The music that Jody and Kate are playing harkens back to an earlier time, to an era before

with new vitality. There is something we call "harmony" here, something more than the sum of the parts. Jody and Kate are not trying to impress you. They don't subscribe to the more-notes-are-better school of music. They don't overpower you with their technical virtuosity. Instead, they give you a wonderful gift: they allow you the space to bring your own feelings to the music." — from the liner notes by Jay Feldman.

Mandolinist Butch Waller is well known for founding the longest running Northern California bluegrass band, High Country. His highly Monroe-influenced mandolin style has been well received by fans and critics nationwide, not only for his work with High Country, but also on his recent solo instrumental recording "Golden Gate Promenade" on Rebel Records.

However, almost no one

Instructors announced for CBA's 2001 Music Camp

by Suzanne Denison

As announced in last month's issue, the California Bluegrass Association will present a three-day music camp on June 11-13, 2001 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, Calif., just prior to our 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival.

The camp will offer small group instruction on a variety of instruments and vocals to help students improve their musical skills. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned jammer looking for new techniques, this camp can help you gain the confidence you need to enjoy performing with others in jams or on stage.

Music camp coordinator, Ingrid Noyes and camp advisor Bill Evans have enlisted a great line-up of veteran musicians as camp instructors. All of them have excellent skills on their individual instruments, are professional performers and/or music instructors, and most will also be appearing on stage during this year's festival. Instructors and their instruments are: Kate Brislin

• Old-time Banjo; Bill Evans - Bluegrass Banjo; Kathy Kallick - Vocals; Jim Nunally - Guitar; John Reischman - Mandolin; Markie Sanders - Bass; Jack Tuttle - Fiddle; and Sally Van Meter - Dobro.



• Bluegrass Banjo — Bill Evans: is well-known within the bluegrass music community not only as a musician, but also as a teacher, writer and scholar. Bill has been involved with bluegrass music and the banjo for over twenty-five years. Among his current activities are a monthly instructional column for Banjo Newsletter See MUSIC CAMP on page A-4

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California Bluegrass Association Membership Application

Name _____ Spouse _____
Address _____ Child(ren) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail: _____

Single Membership \$17.50
With Spouse Added \$20.00
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

It's March already? Yes, and Spring is right around the corner — actually it arrives on the 20th, but you'd never know it up here on Blue Mountain.

As I'm writing this, we have over three feet of snow still on the ground from the big storm which started on Friday, Feb. 9 and continued until early Monday morning. We've had this

much snow before, but not all at once. However, I'm sure it will be gone in a week or so and I can see how many of my bulbs have survived.

We had such mild weather in early February that all of the daffodils and tulips thought it was Spring. They are now bravely sticking up through the snow banks and I hope they make it. I



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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 \$17.50 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 March Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 11, 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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Spring

even had some little crocus in bloom... oh well, Mother Nature isn't very predictable.

There are lots of exciting Bluegrass events coming up in the next few months — right up until June and the CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival. Speaking of which, plans are well underway and we're all excited about the line-up this year and the new CBA Music Camp the three days before the festival starts (June 11-13).

Speaking of the Music Camp, there is a registration form on page 11 for your use. We have an exciting roster of instructors on various instruments and vocals, and a limited amount of space in each class — so don't delay, get your registration in today!

Volunteers for festival production are still needed — if you are interested, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Suzanne Sullivan by phone at 805-239-0445; e-mail: ssul@juno.com; or you can write to her at 1455

Kiler Canyon Rd., Paso Robles, CA 93446.

If you have a particular area of interest, please let her know so that she can match your interest and skills with the area coordinator. Some of the areas where we need help are: gate crew runners and ticket sales; ice booth; stage set-up and tear-down; CBA mercantile sales; children's program; and lots more. Contact Suzanne and she'll put you to work.

In case you've never been a CBA festival volunteer, try it — you'll enjoy it. When you become a part of the festival team, you make new friends, enjoy feeling a part of our association's biggest yearly project, and gain a new respect for all of the dedicated board members, officers and coordinators who spend virtually an entire year planning and working to make the festival happen.

If you're looking for some great music this month, plan to attend the Brother Duet concert on March 9 in Davis. This concert will feature Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin, the Waller Brothers and the MacRae Brothers performing pre-bluegrass old-time brother harmonies. See the ad in this issue for more details and a ticket order form.

Next month, on the weekend of April 27-29, the CBA will be holding our Spring campout at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds in Sonora, CA. This site is within easy walking or driving distance from downtown Sonora with lots of historic sights, restaurants and

shopping. See the article in this issue for more information and a map. Bring your family, friends, instruments and come jam with us. This is a great kick-back weekend to limber up your fingers or

Continued on page A-6

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.

Music Quiz

by Carl Pagter

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

1. First major entertainer to hire Mac Wiseman, and year?
2. Real name of foregoing entertainer and the name of that entertainer's band?
3. Instrument played by Mac Wiseman in this band?
4. Name of first book set in type in the American colonies.
5. Name of bass player with Bill Monroe from 1955-65, who was a passenger in Monroe's car demolished in a January 1953 accident?
6. Name of group joined by Mac Wiseman in 1948?

Quiz answers on page B-16

CBA Music Camp 2001

Continued from page 1

magazine, banjo workshops across the country at major festivals; recording artist on the Rounder Records label; and a regular member of the Bluegrass Intentions. A doctoral candidate in ethnomusicology from the University of California

at Berkeley, Evans has taught courses in American music history at the University of San Francisco, the University of Virginia and Duke University.

•**Old-time Banjo** - Instructor to be announced.

Brother Duets

Continued from page 1

Bob asked Butch to teach him to play the guitar, and the rest is history. Although the two have always played music together informally, tonight marks the Waller Brothers live performance debut as a bona fide brother duet act.

JaQue "MacRae" Quesenberry is a first generation country musician from Eastern Kentucky with a tie to the past that includes a repertoire of almost lost songs, but for JaQue, as well as many original songs. Matt "MacRae" Dudman has returned to his southern roots after years playing rock and blues, tapping a connection with his family history in Arkansas and Louisiana. When he returned to California in 1996 after three years in Louisiana, Matt searched two years for a "brother" with whom he could sing duets. Finally, he found JaQue. Matt's "mission" is to coax all those great songs out of JaQue and carry the tradition on into the next millennium.

Together, the MacRae Brothers produce a close harmony vocal sound accented simply by guitar and mandolin - sparse, but just enough to perfectly complement their vocals and occasionally stand out on instrumental breaks. The MacRae Brothers guarantee an entertaining show filled with jokes, stories and best of all, nice old songs with beautiful close harmony.

Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$15 at the door. There is an additional \$1 discount for California Bluegrass Association members. Advance tickets are available at the Davis Art Center or by mail from Squirty Records, 1117 San Gallo Terrace, Davis, Ca 95616. For more information, call 530-400-3872; e-mail: MatthewDudman@Yahoo.com or visit the web site at: www.geocities.com/matthewdudman/Flyer.htm.

There is an advertisement and ticket order form on the next page for your convenience.

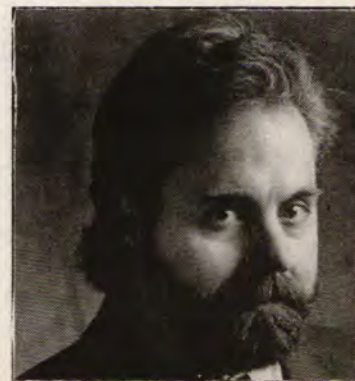
•**Bass — Markie Sanders:** currently resides in Nashville where she performs with Chris Jones and the Night Drivers, singing harmony and providing bass playing that has tone, taste and loads of punch. When Markie lived in California, she had extensive experience playing with Laurie Lewis & Grant Street, Vern and Ray, the Good Ol' Persons, and Queen Ida and the Bon Temps Zydeco Band. Once in Music City, she quickly established herself as one of the best acoustic bass players in town. She will be performing with the Good Ol' Persons reunion on our festival stage on Thursday and Friday.

•**Dobro — Sally Van Meter:** is a Grammy winner for her part in "The Great Dobro Sessions: A Gathering Of Resophonic Pickers". She has performed or recorded with dozens of groups, including the Nashville Bluegrass Band, Peter Rowan, Blue Rose, Jerry Garcia and Kathy Kallick. Sally joined the Good Ol' Persons in 1977 and appeared on all of the band's recordings, and was also a member of the Little Big Band. A finalist for the IBMA's Dobro Player Of the Year award since it was initiated, Sally has released her own highly-regarded solo album, All In Good Time, and is the undisputed master

of the most soulful sound around on the Dobro. She will be performing with the Good Ol' Persons reunion on our festival stage on Thursday and Friday.

•**Fiddle — Jack Tuttle:** grew up in a musical family in rural Illinois and began playing guitar at age 5. "When I was about 12 I began playing bluegrass banjo (I learned from hearing my father play) and a little later I took up mandolin and then fiddle," Jack said. He began teaching full time at Gryphon Stringed Instruments in Palo Alto in 1979 and has worked very hard to develop a complete lesson program on banjo, mandolin, fiddle and guitar. He is also the music editor of Fiddler Magazine and has performed professionally in the U.S., Canada and Japan as a member of numerous bands including the Tall Timber Boys and Fog City Ramblers (bluegrass), the Gryphon Quintet and Front Porch Swing Band (swing), and Emerald (Celtic). Jack has taught more than a thousand students over twenty years in both private and group lessons as well as at the Festival of American Fiddle Tunes and the California Coast Music Camp. These days he does most of his performing on fiddle.

Award winning Bluegrass album of the year "True Life Blues: The Songs of Bill Monroe," which also won two IBMA awards. In addition, Jim is a record producer and engineer and continues to work as a session musician. Through his performing and recording work with artists such as Grammy award winners Rob Ickes and Sally Van Meter, Mike Marshall, Bush, John Reischman, Tony Furtado, Alison Brown, Tony Trischka, Tom Paxton among a host of others, he has gained a reputation as one of the country's finest acoustic guitarists.



•**Mandolin — John Reischman:** is one of the top-ranked contemporary mandolin players, revered for his exquisite taste, tone, and ability to play genres ranging from bluegrass to jazz to hot swing to Latin and beyond. He toured and recorded for many years with California's eclectic Good Ol' Persons and helped define the groundbreaking "new acoustic" instrumental scene as a member of Tony Rice Unit in the early '80s. John moved to Canada several years ago and has since recorded a duet album with renowned Seattle acoustic guitarist John Miller; a solo album, "North of the Border" (Rounder Records); and lent his distinctive skills as a mandolinist to an ever-growing list of recordings by a number of well-known artists. In addition, he is in demand as a mandolin teacher and conducts workshops throughout the United States and Canada. He recently performed at the San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-time Festival with his new band, the Jaybirds (Greg Spatz, Nick Hornbuckle, and Jim Nunally). John will be performing with the Good Ol' Persons reunion on our festival stage on Thursday and Friday.

Continued on page 5

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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 (85 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



•**Guitar — Jim Nunally:** a native of the San Francisco Bay Area, is a musician, composer and teacher. His third generation traditional music roots began in Arkansas with his guitar-playing grandfather who taught Jim's father, who in turn taught Jim. This pedigree contributes to his unmistakably traditional sound. He has numerous albums with well-known musicians, has played on sound-tracks for motion pictures and television programs. Jim was awarded a Grammy certification his performance on the 1996 Grammy



• **Vocals — Kathy Kallick:** has been among the elite of contemporary songwriters and singers since co-founding the internationally-acclaimed band, the Good Ol' Persons, in 1975. That group, originally comprised of five women including Kathy and Laurie Lewis, tweaked the bluegrass establishment with not only their name and personnel but also by combining original sensibilities with a traditional foundation. They evolved into a unique and enduring band, anchored by Kathy's breathtaking vocals, exemplary rhythm guitar, and extraordinary compositions. In addition to GOP, she has performed and recorded with the Frank Wakefield Band, produced albums for High Country, and collaborated with a number of like-minded musicians including Laurie Lewis, John Reischman, Todd Phillips, Sally Van Meter, Scott Nygaard, Keith Little, Kate Brislin, Jody Stecher, and Sandy Rothman. Since becoming a mom in 1987, Kathy has also been writing, performing and recording music for children and the whole family. She has also recorded a solo album, "Matters of the Heart," "Call Me A Taxi" (1996 Sugar Hill) and an album with The Kathy Kallick Band in 2000.

Classes are slated to start on Monday morning, June 11, 2001 and continue through Wednesday, June 13, 2001. Participants will identify an instrument of choice and receive instruction all three days in the morning and early afternoon. As much as is possible, students will be grouped according to experience and skill level, and all students are expected to at least be able to tune their instrument and identify places where chords need to change.

The late afternoon sessions will be divided into several shorter periods with workshops on additional topics, such as vo-

cal harmony, songwriting, music theory, performance videos, critical listening and sound enhancement, and there will also be opportunities for group practice and jams. Evening jam sessions, open mics, staff concerts and a dance are also among the excit-

ing activities planned for the music campers. Camping will be available on the fairgrounds and there are a number of area motels which offer accommodations for those who don't want to camp. Early reservations are recommended. A brochure of area

motels, hotels and bed and breakfast inns is available from the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce by calling 530-273-2565; e-mail: info@gvncchamber.org; or web site: www.gvncchamber.org.

In addition to the music-re-

lated sessions, participants are invited to attend a welcome supper on Sunday evening, June 10, provided by Rick Cornish — one of the camp's organizers and CBA Board member, who is also a great cook. A continental break-

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JODY STECHER & KATE BRISLIN



The California Bluegrass Association Presents

An Evening of Old-Time Country, Pre-Bluegrass

BROTHER DUETS

Friday, March 9th

8:00 p.m. at the

Davis Art Center

1919 F. Street in Davis, CA

Featuring:

Jody Stecher & Kate Brislin

The Waller Brothers

and the MacRae Brothers

**Tickets are \$14 Advance and \$15 at the door
with an additional \$1 discount for CBA members**

Advance tickets are available at the Davis Art Center or by Mail from Squirty Records -- Ticket order form below:

Yes, please send me the following tickets for the CBA's Brother Duet Concert on March 9, 2001 at the Davis Art Center:

_____ CBA Member Tickets @13 each

_____ CBA Membership # _____

_____ General Admission Tickets @\$14 each

Total Tickets _____ Total Payment _____

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

Squirty Records
1117 San Gallo Terrace
Davis, CA 95616

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

For more information, call 530-400-3872; e-mail: MatthewDudman@Yahoo.com or
visit the web site at: www.geocities.com/matthewdudman/flyer.htm.

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

CBA Member News Notes...

Congratulations to **Rich Ferguson** and **Debra Dalton** who were married on December 2, 2000. Rich is the banjo player for the **Grass Menagerie** and the **Gospel Creek Bluegrass Band**, and Debra is the Gospel Creek bass player. The music at the wedding was provided by the Grass Menagerie with Jarry Barush filling in on banjo for Rich.

In Memory — George "Big Duke" Chrestionson

George A. Chrestionson, 73, died January 19, 2001 in Santa Rosa. Also known as "Big Duke", Chrestionson was a member of the Sonoma County Shrine Club and entertained thousands of children at the CBA Festival and in hospitals since he founded the club's Clown unit in 1985.

A native of Seminole, Oklahoma, Mr. Chrestionson was a teacher in Daly City before he retired and moved to Santa Rosa.

Masonic services were held on January 23, 2001 in Santa Rosa.

Music Camp

Continued from page A5
fast of coffee and rolls will be provided every morning; and a "triumphant closure" barbecue on Wednesday evening will also be provided to participants by the CBA. Some of the festival food vendors will be on site during the music camp, and there are a number of restaurants and fast-food outlets within easy driving distance of the fairgrounds.

Cost of the complete three-day music camp is \$235 per person if paid by May 15, 2001 or \$260.00 after May 15. Included in the fee are three full days of instruction from some of the best-known and talented musicians in Bluegrass and old-time music, handouts and technological teaching aids, the opportunity to make new friends and improve your musical skills, and a whole lot of fun!

There is a registration blank on page 11 of this issue. Advance reservations are required and class sizes will be limited — don't delay, send in your reservation today!

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Eleanor; daughter Kim Banta of Brentwood; son Keith Chrestionson of Lafayette; four grandchildren; sister Theda Olson and several neices and nephews.

"Big Duke" will be sorely missed by all of those who knew him, especially the children.



Woodland Bluegrass Festival 2001 Live CD now available

If you attended the first ever Woodland Bluegrass Festival last November, you'll be happy to hear that the CD recorded live at the festival is now available.

Doug Bianchi has finished production and has already released copies of the CD to those who signed up to receive it during the event. If you missed the festival in Woodland, you'll still enjoy hearing the great music by Northern California bands. There are twenty songs on the project and according to Larry Kuhn in the Sacramento CBA e-newsletter, "The audio quality is superb, and this CD should be a welcome addition to your bluegrass music collection".

After covering production expenses, all of the revenues from this recording will go to the CBA. You can purchase the CD at the Fifth String Music Store at 930 Alhambra at J Street in Sacramento; or send \$17.66 (which includes postage and handling) to Doug Bianchi, 124 Boulder St., Nevada City, CA 95959. For more information, call 530-265-6743 or e-mail: dbianchi@nccn.net.

Editor's Corner

Continued from page A-4
vocal chords for the festival season. The only cost are the camping fees — which are quite reasonable. No reservations are necessary, just come and enjoy. In case you don't like to camp, there are a number of hotels, motels and bed and breakfast inns in the area. Contact the Sonora Chamber of Commerce for a complete list.

Until next month...enjoy the music!

Music in the Schools request received

CBA Board member and Activities Vice President **Bob Thomas** sent the Breakdown the following request via e-mail. If anyone would like to respond or can volunteer, please call the teacher.

Hi folks,

Today I received a call from Sandy Sanders, who has a third grade student at Jackson Elementary school in El Dorado Hills. On behalf of the 3rd Grade Class, she is trying to find musicians who will come to the school and bring acoustic music to the class. She wants to have one or more musicians do a 20-25 minute presentation at the school for the class. It can be any day, sometime between 9 AM and 2 PM. She would like the presenter to play a few tunes, and talk about the instrument(s), and perhaps about bluegrass music.

This is a great opportunity to bring a little bluegrass to 20 boys and girls (8 yr. old) who may think that all guitars are electric, have never seen a dobro or mandolin, have never heard bluegrass, etc. This does not need to be a band function, it can be solo, duet, or more.

I would hope that you would want to respond to this wonderful opportunity and share our music with these children. If you would, please call Sandy at 933-1288, or send her an email at sandralsan@hotmail.com and set up a convenient day and time. Your help is very appreciated.

Bob Thomas,
CBA Activities VP



Band and Musician News Notes...

Video clip added to MacRae's web site

Innovation is the norm for backward old-timers the **MacRae Brothers**. Continuously putting their back-woods music on the front burner, cutting edge technophiliacs and old-time country pre-bluegrassers the MacRae Brothers have added to their website a short video clip from their recent South Bay cable TV video, which has been airing regularly on local cable stations



in various northern California cities.

Go to www.MacRaeBrothers.com and click on "Video Clip" after you've installed quicktime for you PC or Mac from <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>. It's surprisingly easy; heck, it may even already be installed on your computer.



New Sam Hill recording completed

"Haunted by a Memory," the third recording for Oregon-based band, **Sam Hill** has been completed and scheduled for release at Wintergrass in Tacoma the end of February.

A CD Release Party is scheduled for Saturday, March 24 at the Hollywood Theater, 4122 NE Sandy Blvd. in Portland, Oregon. The night will feature the Casey Neil Trio and Sam Hill, both celebrating the release of brand new projects.

For more information about Sam Hill or their new recording, visit their web site at: <http://www.samhillbluegrass.com>.



DBA Campout invitation extended

Bonnie Lohman of the **Desert Bluegrass Association** extended an invitation via e-mail to the DBA's Spring Campout. The event will be held April 27, 28 & 29, 2001 at the Picacho Campground, Picacho, AZ.

Fees are: Dry camping \$10 per day, water and electric; RV full hook ups \$18.95 per day; and day use per car \$4.

Amenities include shade trees, swimming pool, hot tub, clean restrooms and showers, on site convenience store, gift shop, laundry and propane.

There will be a pot luck on Saturday night and a Gospel hour on Sunday morning. To make reservation, call 1-888-562-7451. For further information, call (520) 296-1231.

For more information about the Desert Bluegrass Association or their upcoming events, visit the web site at: <http://home.att.net/~fertilepickens/>.



Record Company News Notes... Hay Holler new releases and artists by Kerry Hay

Big Country Bluegrass has made personnel changes recently. Fiddler and lead singer Jeff Michael has left the band. New members are Jimmy Trivette on guitar and lead vocals; and Tom Brantley on fiddle and vocals. The band is currently recording their fifth album for Hay Holler, scheduled for release in April.

Tommy Brown and The County Line Grass are currently recording their first Hay Holler album, scheduled for release in April, and **Wayne Henderson**, with several of his picking buddies, is recording his third Hay Holler album, scheduled for June release.

Lost Highway founder and guitarist/lead vocalist, Ken Orrick is recording a "solo" album, supported by Lost Highway bandmembers, Leroy Mack, Ron Spears, Brittany Bailey and others. Scheduled for release in May.

For more information on these Hay Holler Records artists or projects or to receive a catalog of all of their recordings, call 540-552-7959; or e-mail: hayholler@usit.net.



Rounder Record news updates

Clarence "Tom" Ashley's newest project for Rounder Records, "Greenback Dollar" was released in late February. Ashley was perhaps one of the most versatile and authentic old-time musicians to record during the

Continued on page A-7

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES...

Continued from page 6
1920s and '30s. He was rediscovered during the 1960s "folk boom" and has influenced such high-caliber artists as Jerry Garcia, Joan Baez and Mike Steeger. This CD is the first project to contain the best of Ashley's prewar recordings on one disc which features 20 tracks.

Paul Williams and the Victory Trio have been nominated for a Grammy in the "Best Southern, Country or Bluegrass Gospel Album" category. Paul will have a new gospel album out this spring titled "Hard Working Pilgrim".

Dave Evans is finishing up studio work on a new Gospel album. The project is being co-produced by Dave and Lonesome River Band mandolinist Don Rigsby, who also plays and sings harmony on the album.

For more Rebel Records information or a catalog of their products, write to P.O. Box 7405, Charlottesville, VA 22906, or e-mail: rebel@rlc.net.



March Concert News Notes...

Bluegrass Gold to feature Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum, Martha Hawthorne & Bill Foss

On Tuesday, March 20, at 8:30 p.m. the next edition of the monthly bluegrass series Bluegrass Gold will take place at Sweetwater in Mill Valley. The show is produced by Larry Carlin and Carltone Music. This show will feature two longtime Bay Area bluegrass and old-time duos, Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum, and Martha Hawthorne & Bill Foss.

For 25 years, band leader/singer/songwriter/fiddler/guitarist/bassist Laurie Lewis has established herself as one of the finest, most diversely talented artists in traditional American music. After co-founding the pioneering West Coast bluegrass group, the Good Ol' Persons, she formed her own Grant Street String Band, and has since released a dozen albums, and twice won the International Bluegrass Music Association "Female Vocalist of the Year" award. Tom Rozum, a compelling mandolin player and, like Laurie Lewis, a great lead and

harmony singer, joined forces with Laurie in 1986, and they've made wonderfully complimentary music — as a duo and in bands together — ever since. Their 1996 album of duets, "The Oak & The Laurel," was nomi-

nated for a Grammy award

Opening the show will be the old-time duo of Martha Hawthorne & Bill Foss. They have been playing duets together since they met nearly 20 years ago. They draw their inspiration



from the great old-time, bluegrass and country duets of the 30s, 40s, 50s and beyond.

Martha's heartfelt singing is the anchor of this duet's "brother style" vocals. Bill's talents as a

Continued on page A-8



Presents

Perfect Strangers



Soulful, spirited, and tasteful traditional bluegrass music with Chris Brashear, Peter McLaughlin, Bob Black, Jody Stecher, and Forrest Rose.

Saturday March 24th

**\$15 in Advance
\$18 Day of Show**

Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. Door Opens at 7:30, Show Starts at 8:00

And Coming on May 12th...

THE PINE VALLEY BOYS

REUNION

Herb Pedersen: banjo, vocals Butch Waller: mandolin, vocals
David Nelson: guitar, vocals Ed Neff: fiddle Steve Pottier: acoustic bass

\$15 in Advance, \$18 Day of Show. In a Palo Alto location to be determined...

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. More info at 650-691-9982.

\$25 SPECIAL

When you order tickets by mail you get Perfect Strangers and Pine Valley Boys for 25 bucks!

BLUEGRASS NEWS NOTES

Continued from page A-7

multi-instrumentalist add sparkle to their mix of ballads, tearjerkers, waltzes, happy songs and breakdowns.

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

Redwood Bluegrass to present Perfect Strangers on Mar. 24



Redwood Bluegrass Associates will present **Perfect Strangers** in concert on Saturday, March 24, 2001 at the Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road in Palo Alto, CA. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and show starts at 8.

The music of the band is described as: "Soulful, spirited and traditional bluegrass music". Band members are: Chris Brashear, Peter McLaughlin, Bob Black, Jody Stecher and Forrest Rose.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 the day of the show.

On May 12, RBA will present the **Pine Valley Boys Reunion** featuring: Herb Pedersen - banjo, vocals; Butch Waller - mandolin, vocals; David Nelson - guitar,

vocals; Ed Neff - fiddle; Steve Pottier - acoustic bass. The show will also be held at the Palo Alto Arts Center.

Tickets are available from TicketWeb and at Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert St., Palo Alto. Mail order tickets are available from Redwood Bluegrass Associates, P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846.

For more information, see the ad on page A-7 of this issue; call 650-691-9982 or visit the RBA web site at: www.rba.org.



Eddie and Martha Adcock announce California tour dates

Fans of Eddie and Martha Adcock will have several opportunities to see them perform in California next month. Their western tour will begin with an



April 6 performance at South Plains College in Levelland, Texas, continue through New Mexico with a tentative April 7th date in Las Cruces, and then on to California.

The husband and wife team features Eddie on banjo and Martha on guitar along with their wonderful vocal harmonies.

California tour dates are:

- April 11 — Henflings Tavern, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, CA. For information or tickets, call 831-335-1642 or e-mail: henfling@cruzio.com.
- April 12 — Espresso Garden Cafe, 814 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA, phone 408-298-0808.
- April 13 — Chico Women's Club, Chico, CA.
- April 14 — Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley. Call (510)

548-1761 for information, or visit their web site at: www.thefreight.org

- April 15 — International Music Hall and Bistro, 120 East Main Street, Grass Valley, CA. Phone 530-477-2664 or web site at: <http://www.musicallbistro.com>.
- April 16 — Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA phone (415) 388-2820. (with Peter Rowan) (tentative)
- April 19 — Dizzy's, 344 Seventh Avenue, San Diego CA, phone 858-220-7467.
- April 21 — Deering Banjos, 7936 Lester Ave., San Diego, CA, phone 619-464-8652.

For more information, visit their web site at: www.eddieandmarthaadcock.com/tour. There are links to some of the venues for more information and directions.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for CBA support -- SFBOTF was a great success

Dear Editor:

I'm writing on behalf of the committee that produced the 2nd Annual San Francisco Bluegrass & Old Time Festival from February 2-11. At the risk of sounding immodest, we had a tremendously successful event! We had a dozen events that were sold out or standing room only, with many interested people waiting in the rain to gain admission, or having to leave disappointed, but knowing that bluegrass and old time music is a hot ticket!

Total attendance for all the festival events was roughly 3200! The brand-new film series went over astoundingly well; we were mentioned in the nationwide NPR story about "Ralph Stanley Day" in San Francisco (February 6, 2001) and "The Ralph Stanley Story" film by Herb E. Smith of AppalShop Films. We were a featured story statewide on The California Report on KQED radio! I should not forget to mention that all the bands put in wonderful performances—I was thrilled to see so much great music in the space of ten days!

We'd like to thank the CBA for throwing their support behind our festival this year. We were very pleased to have you participate; your publicity efforts helped us to reach the dedicated bluegrass fans around the area. In turn, we hope that we helped you to reach some new fans. I took a quick look at survey re-

sults from two different concerts as a sample. I wanted to see how many audience members are members of either CBA or NCBS, and how many of them attend summer festivals.

The total number of surveys were 47 and 43, from the two concerts. The numbers broke down like this: people who are already members of one or both bluegrass organizations, and who already go to festivals: 5, 2. People who are not members and who do not go to festivals: 6, 4. People who are not members of a bluegrass organization, but who do attend summer festivals: 36, 37. That was 76% and 86% of our audience members who do attend summer music festivals, but are not in either California bluegrass organization! I think this represents a group of people who are clearly interested in live, acoustic-based music and are definitely potential new members or festival-goers.

We look forward to continuing to grow this successful event, to increasing the visibility of bluegrass and old time music, and to continuing to work in cooperation with the CBA. Thank you again for your support!

Best regards,

Barbara Hansen
SFBOT Festival
Committee Chair
www.sfbbluegrass.org

The Bluegrass Quilters bring the traditional art form to Bluegrass Festivals and campouts

by Donna Quartier

Last year, Melinda Stanley and I formed a group called The Bluegrass Quilters. We found there are a lot of quilters associated with Bluegrass music....maybe from the backhills/country heritage??

Our group put together a quilt show at the Blythe January 2000 festival. That was where our group was "born," and it just went uphill from there. We have about 57 members now, and just had our second Quilt show at the Blythe 2001 festival in January this year.

The Blythe show featured 31 quilts submitted by quilters from California, Arizona, Washington and Tennessee. Ribbons for the winning quilts were provided by a shop in Quartzsite, Arizona, Desert Fabrics.

We had three classes: Wall hangings and miscellaneous (ie; table runners, clothing, etc.); Lap size quilts and crib quilts; and Bed size quilts. The winners were:

- #1 wall hanging, "Baltimore Album" by Sharon Bonney (CBA member)

- #2 Vest, "Charly's Victorian vest" by Charly Vines (ABA member from Arizona)
 - #3 wall hanging, "God Bless the USA, Y2K" by Donna Quartier (CBA member)
- Lap size quilts and crib quilts:
- #1 "Amish Tulips" by Louise Gardner (a local Blythe resident)
 - #2 "First Quilt" by Betty Colby (CBA member)
 - #3 "Christians Millennium quilt" by Melinda Stanley (CBA member)

Bed size:

- #1 "Colorwash Irish Chain" by Lorraine Paris (CBA member from Washington)
- #2 "Mariners Compass" by Evelyn Fuller
- #3 "Millennium Wheels" by Cindy Coffey (ABA member from Tennessee)

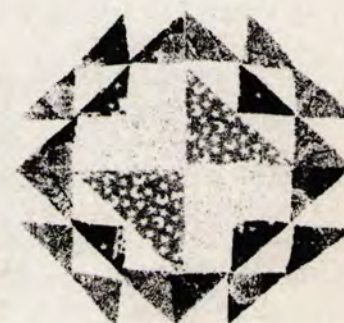
The Best of show ribbon was also won by Lorraine Paris, for her Colorwash Irish Chain

We don't plan to have more than one quilt show a year, but at Grass Valley and at Plymouth last year we set up a large quilt frame and invited other quilters to work

on it with us.

Our plan is simple, we don't have structured meetings, but whenever two or more are gathered it's a meeting. Quilters, like all Bluegrassers, are friendly and helpful. Melinda Stanley publishes a quarterly newsletter, and this year we all made blocks which have been sewn together into a beautiful quilt titled "Union Star" for which we are selling "Opportunity tickets". The drawing for the quilt will be held at the January 2002 Blythe Quilt show.

If anyone out there is interested in joining us, we'll be at the CBA campout this spring, or contact Melinda Stanley @ P O Box 273, Copperopolis, Ca 95228.



3rd Annual Mother's Day "Camp Rude" Bluegrass Music Festival

May 11th, 12th, & 13th 2001

Parkfield, California

"World's Most Earthshaking Bluegrass Festival"

Cache Valley Drifters

Chris Jones

Witcher Brothers

Copperline



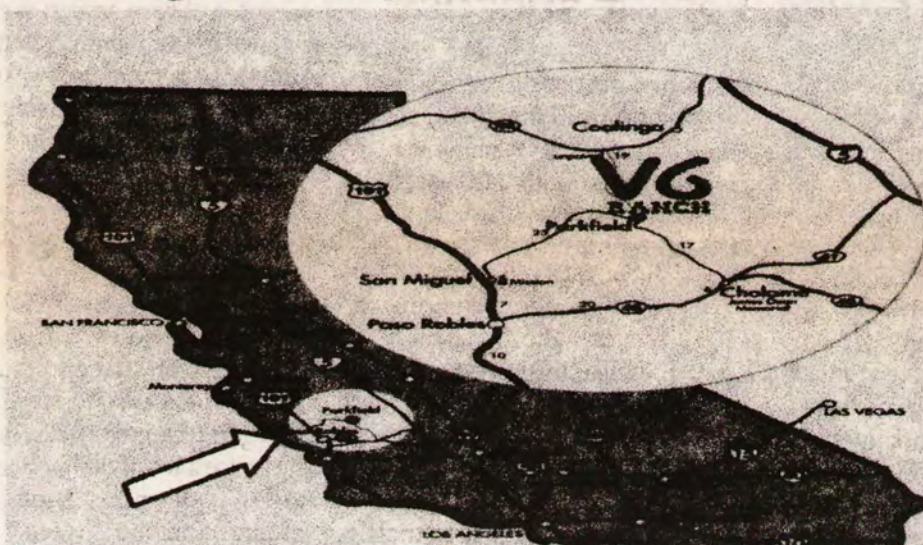
And the Night Drivers



Emcees: Dale Lawrence * TJ Lyons * Dennis Witcher

Bear Ridge All Stars, Cheesy Tortalini's, Cherryholmes Family, Full (Phil) Salad Bar Band, Grateful Dudes, Lonesome Road, Pea Hens, South Side, String Bandits, Uncle Sloss & the Drunkardnauts Wild Sage, Music Workshops, Kids Gift Making Workshop and MUCH MORE to be announced ...

- 👍 Flush Toilets & Hot Showers (An Experience !)
- 👍 24 hour Jamming (most areas, shady quiet area)
- 👍 Early Birds Welcome @ \$10.00 per day camping
- 👍 Camp Rude Raffle (The Best in the West)
- 👍 Lots of Shade & Grass in Stage & Tenting Area
- 👍 65 acres of Shady Flat Camping (Live Oaks)
- 👍 Easy RV Access from Hwy 101 or I-5
- 👍 Home Cooked Meals at Parkfield Cafe
- 👍 Swimming & Horse Back Riding
- 👍 Web Site www.camprude.com
- 👍 Wood Stoves (raised and contained rule)
- 👍 Motorcycles Welcome (Special Area)
- 👍 Golf Carts & Mtn. Biking (walk 'em in town)
- 👍 Pets (on leash w/ master, P.U.P. rule, not @ stage)
- 👍 Music, Gift, T- Shirt, Food, Etc. Vendors
- 👍 Less Rules, More Pickin', More Fun!



From I-5 (North, Sacramento Area) Exit at Kettleman City (Hwy 41) west to JCT of Hwy 41 & Hwy 46, 100 Ft. past this Junction turn Right, (North) at "Jack Ranch" sign on Davis / Cholame Rd. go 17 miles N. to Parkfield. From I-5 S. (LA area) Exit I-5 at Lost Hills Hwy 46 west to Hwy 41/46 JCT. (watch out for roaming cattle & wild pigs on Cholame Rd. !!! we are not kidding)

From Hwy 101 (SF & coastal regions) Exit 101 at San Miguel (6 miles north of Paso Robles), head east across river, turn Left (North) at Indian Valley Rd. to Vineyard Canyon Rd. (North East) to Parkfield (21 Miles). From S. Coast take 46 at Paso Robles to the Jack Ranch Sign, then N. on Davis / Cholame Rd. There will be plenty of signs to get you there!

Prices Includes Camping from May 10th to May 13th **RAIN or SHINE** Any Bluegrass Assn. \$5.00 off (Advance)

👍 Limited Electric & Handicapped / Porta Potty Provisions Available May 11th @ 2:00 PM (some may be reserved)

Before April 15th, 2001

3 Day Advance \$40

2 Day Advance \$30

No Single Day Advance

After April 15th, 2001

3 Day Ticket \$60

2 Day Ticket \$40

Single Day Ticket \$25

👍 Less Rules More Fun !

👍 Sorry, No Refunds

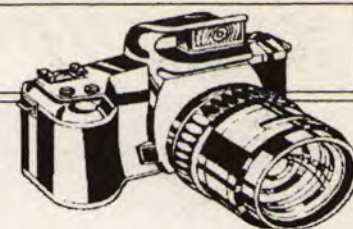
👍 Kids 12 and under FREE

👍 200 Miles from LA or SF

Visit Web Sites: www.camprude.com, & sponsors: www.greatmusicfestivals.com, & www.Parkfield.com for more info Call (559) 592 6389

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

FESTIVAL FOCUS



Brookdale Bluegrass Festival #2 Set For March 9-11

By Michael Hall

The second NCBS Brookdale Bluegrass Festival has been set for March 9-11, 2001 at the historic Brookdale Lodge in Brookdale, a few miles north of Santa Cruz on Highway 9. The festival is produced by Eric Burman and co-sponsored by the Northern California Bluegrass Society.

The line-up includes: Frank Solivan and Frank Solivan, Jr. and Friends; The Bladerunners; Wild Sage; Mr. Banjo & The Lonesome Wailers; Earthquake Country; All Wrecked Up; Summit Express; The Sibling Brothers; The Smokin' Hams; The Barefoot Boys; and Dan Mazer ("Banjer Dan") from Washington, DC. More bands will be added.

Sound and lighting will be provided by Overhead Productions (new!) and recording by Faultline Audio.

The Brookdale Lodge is a great place for bluegrass music. There are nice lobbies with fireplaces for pickin' and jamming, a huge indoor heated swimming pool (for swimming—this time, all music will be in the main downstairs music hall). The small hotel will be completely devoted to bluegrass on this weekend, so jamming can go to all hours. All rooms at the hotel will be avail-

able at the lowest wintertime rates. A limited amount of free RV parking will be available onsite.

Advance tickets: 3-day \$45, 2-day \$35, 1-day \$20. There are discounts for children. NCBS member 3-day advance tickets are \$40. 1145 El Solito Heights, Felton, CA. 95018. Information: brookdalebluegrass@hotmail.com or call (831) 335-3662.



3rd Annual Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival May 11-13

Pat and Rosie Conway are happy to announce that they will be presenting their third annual Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival on May 11-13, 2001 in beautiful town of Parkfield, California.

"Camp Rude is very proud to feature excellent Bluegrass artisans, mercantile and community", according to Pat. He continued: "Camp Rude camping offers the fine amenities of flush toilets, hot showers and camping on 65 acres of shaded flat land. While camping, please bring your above ground stoves, golf carts, motor and pedal bicycles, RV's and pets."

The line-up for this year's festival includes: Chris Jones and

the Night Drivers, the Cache Valley Drifters, Copperline, the Witcher Brothers, the Bear Ridge All Stars, Full (Phil) Salad Bar Band, Grateful Dudes, High Cotton, Lonesome Road, Nine Pound Hammer, Parkfield Pea Hens, South Side, Spirit High Ridge, String Bandits and Wild Sage.

"Both local and traveling merchants offer the finest fare and food services. The Parkfield Cafe provides wonderful lunch and dinner at a reasonable rate. Prior festivals have also attracted western wares, music and instrument vendors, log furniture and a general store. You can also plan on horseback riding or going swimming once you arrive" according to Conway.

Advance tickets are now on sale through April 15, 2001. Prices are: 3-Day advance \$40; 3-Day gate \$60; 3-Day advance \$30; 2-Day gate \$40 — prices are per person. No single day advance tickets are available. Single day tickets at the gate are \$25 per person per day.

Advance tickets are available by mail. Send check or money order payable to Pat Conway "Bluegrass" and mail to: Camp Rude Bluegrass, PO Box 44135, Lemon Cove, California 93244-4135. For further information, see the web site at: www.camp-rude.com.

There is an advertisement and ticket order form on page A-9 for your convenience.

41st Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival

The 41st Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival, "A Bluegrass and Old Time Music, Folk Songs, Dance, Crafts and Parklands Festival," will be held at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area on Paramount Ranch near Agoura, California on Sunday, May 20, 2001.

The festival features music and dance performances on four stages and other activities throughout the site including birding, nature studies, hiking and children's crafts activities in the Eucalyptus Grove. It is sponsored by Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest, Inc. And Santa Monica Mountains Fund, in cooperation with the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area, a unit of the National Park System.

The Contest Stage features Old Time and Bluegrass music with 110 contests and performances by the Laurel Canyon Ramblers, the Iron Mountain String Band, and Dave Para/Cathy Barton.

The Dance Stage will have dance demonstrations and instruction in Family, Clog, International, English Country, Contra, and Square dancing by a variety of instructors and performers.

On the Pavilion Stage the audience will be able to see the Fiddle Contest playoffs, Children's Songs by Tom Kuzenkowski, Humorous Songs by Simon Lukas Songmakers, Cowboy Poetry and Songs by Mike Mahaney and friends, and Aircraft Songs by Ken Craydon.

Outlaw and Murder Ballads by Amy Wooley, Hank Williams Sr. Songs by Fred Sokolow, Johnnie Cash Songs by Brantley Kearns, "Here's To Women" Songs by Hilda Wenner and Songs of Hard Times by Ross Altman will be performed on the Railroad Stage.

In addition to the entertainment and activities, there will be food and drink vendors, jamming, and folk art booths for your shopping pleasure. Attendees are asked to bring blankets or low back chairs for seating.

Tickets are: \$9 for ages 18-64; \$5 for ages 10-17 and 65 and older; and children below 10 are free.

For contest entry, booths, volunteers, and general information, For information, write to Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest, P.O. Box 571955, Tarzana, CA 91356; call 818-382-4819; e-mail: info@topangabanjofiddle.org; or website: <http://www.topangabanjofiddle.org>.

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

by Howard Polley

Check your watch. What time is it? While you're at it, check which weekday it is. What about the date? Now having done all this, do you know where your harmonica is? Once these questions have been clearly answered, make sure you know where YOU are! OK, enough of this semi-nonsense!

Now get your instrument and start doing some short or

long range practicing. Sometimes such spontaneous practicing can cause you to accidentally discover a new improvising idea or possibly a review of an old song you have not thought of for months or even years.

When you make these musical discoveries, write down your ideas so you don't forget them... something a scientist might do. I've made use of this method and

have found it to be helpful; hopefully this might be useful to you as well. Now it's time to "head-um up and move-um out" with this month's article.

Could This Have Been How It Used To Be?

The farm house has been completed. The crops are planted. Pasture fences have been mended, checked and made secure for all the grazing animals. The barn is not only up, but is painted a bright red and white. Now it's time for the big celebration... the Saturday night barn dance. We must invite all the neighbors who worked very hard to help us get settled in this area. Of course the musicians will be there, playing lively and danceable music. At the very

least we hope to have a fiddle, banjo, guitar player and any other musicians we can round up for the celebration.

What's this? A young man, Jed Phillips, wants to sit-in with the band this Saturday night. Jed has been practicing a lot over the past year and would probably fit in just fine. Jed knows our opening number, "Buffalo Gals", quite well on his "G" harp. And so it goes. The celebration was a huge success and everyone left the party tired but having a fulfilled type of feeling.

How about this cheerful music the pioneers and trailblazers of this country seemed to enjoy so much? These settlers have long passed on, of course, but what a legacy of cheerful music, determination and perse-



verance these early Americans have left us. In a smaller sense perhaps, we as musicians are continuing this tradition for others to enjoy and participate in. In the process of this music making we too begin to establish loyal and true friendships that endure even with the passing of time. Maybe we do contribute more than we realize in the arena of wholesome music and lasting values. In any event, I would like to believe that at least in part, this is the way it used to be.

As always, your time and interest in each month's article continues to be appreciated. By the way — you did locate your harmonica didn't you? Thanks. Had me worried for a moment!



CBA's Festival Gate Ticket Sales Coordinator, **Mike McGar** would like to thank all of you who volunteered for last year's festival and asks you to contact him. NEW volunteers are also needed — contact Mike for more information at:
Phone: 209-572-3735 (home)
209-575-6910 (work) or
e-mail: mcgarm@yosemite.cc.ca.us.

Bluegrass Folks — Evelyn Lee And Cheri Fenchel

by Bill Wilhelm

The California Bluegrass Association Festival at Grass Valley has become the largest and most popular event of such kind on the west coast. It is rare to hear of anyone coming farther year after year to attend this gala event than Evelyn Lee and Cheri Fenchel.

Evelyn lives in East Moline, Illinois and Cheri in LeClaire, Iowa. As they each live in states bordering the Mississippi River, they actually live only a few miles apart. Cheri is Evelyn's niece and they regularly make the four thousand mile round trip together. They have been doing this so many years and now have so many bluegrass friends that it just wouldn't be the same without them. Neither of them plays any musical instruments, but both of them love the music and all the people involved.

Evelyn has always been unusually fond of animals. She just naturally has "a very special way" with them and they respond to her exceptionally well. The list of her unusual pets throughout the years began when she was a little girl, and would overflow this column. So, it is only natural that her career has been that of a veterinary technician. She has worked in several vet hospitals and been involved in surgery on all sizes, and darned near all kinds of critters known to man.

Evelyn's husband retired from John Deere several years ago and they did a lot of traveling in their motorhome all over the US including a trip to Alaska and another to Nova Scotia. Then she lost him to cancer about ten years ago. Motorhoming without him was not the same and she decided to add other things



to her life. When she was asked to attend a bluegrass festival, she declined, saying that she had always loved country music, but just didn't think she could handle bluegrass.

Then, as time went by, she kept hearing more about bluegrass music and the festivals. She heard about the Grass Valley Festival and though it was two thousand miles away, decided to give it a try. Well, she had a new Oldsmobile then and wanted to try it out on a nice long drive. She drove across all the states in the two thousand miles between all by herself and found herself at her first bluegrass festival in Grass Valley.

She has never met a stranger and with her friendly outgoing personality, she soon had lots of new friends. She even discovered that bluegrass music was not as she thought it was and she even fell in love with it.

Her sidekick, Cheri grew up in country music, as her daddy was a top notch lead guitar and fiddle player and made a living doing it. He spent years playing on radio stations and traveling over the country with some of the best western swing bands in the business. With a daddy like that, she had loved the music from the start and when she found out about Evelyn's adventure, she couldn't wait to see what it was all about.

Cheri has had some interesting adventures, including living at one time at the observatory on Kitt Peak in Arizona where the huge telescopes pry into the se-

Synopsis of the December 2000 CBA Board Minutes

Continued from page 11

events planned by the CBA Rick Cornish discussed his wish to plan a summer campout geared toward families. Robert Crowder reported that the Spring CBA campout will be held on the weekend of April 27, 28 & 29, 2001, at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds in Sonora, CA. Discussion followed regarding our charge to the camper. Robert asked the board how it felt about setting the fall campout at Colusa. The consensus was that it should be set at that location.

2. South Bay Area Activities: Roger Siminoff was not present. Rick Cornish told the board about a small festival at the Brookdale lodge. Rick let the board know he will be moving from San Jose to Sonora and will be looking at bluegrass opportunities in that area at that time. He said Roger will continue as the South Bay Area Activities Vice President.

3. Napa, Marin and Sonoma Area Activities: Mark Hogan was not present. Mary Runge said Mark is still working on the February event.

4. Festival Timeline: Montie Elston distributed timeline items and reviewed them. He asked what the board would like as job descriptions for the coordinators. The board agreed they would like updated job descriptions. Montie will supply these to the Board members. He also distributed copies of the suggested changes in the verbiage of the festival rules and reviewed the current (2001) brochure. Discussion followed. Suzanne Denison asked if anyone was going to the Blythe festival and would take flyers. Montie said he planned to go and would take down some flyers.

5. Coordinator Reports:

A. Concessions: Gene Kirkpatrick gave his report.

B. Advance Ticket Sales: David Runge reported two tickets sold last month.

6. Report on Fairground Negotiations: Carl Pagter reported on the meeting and fairground negotiations. Those CBA members attending were Carl Pagter, Montie Elston, Bob Gillim and Dorothy Gillim. Those attending from the Nevada

County Fairgrounds were Ed Scofield, Mike Navin and Pat Reilly. Carl Rick thanked the committee for handling the negotiations.

7. Mary Runge said she thought there had been some discussion regarding revisions of the by-laws. Montie Elston said he also remembered there had been some discussion regarding this matter. Discussion followed.

8. Rick Cornish asked for a report on the bands for the 2002 Festival. Carl Pagter gave the report and discussion followed.

IX. Other Business:

A. Kids on Stage — Frank Solivan said he wished to thank everyone involved in Kids on Stage. He feels they are a wonderful group of people. He commended the CBA for inviting the Barefoot Bluegrass performers to come down from Alaska to perform at the June 2000 festival. He feels every child on stage should receive a t-shirt and wanted to thank the CBA for providing the Kids on Stage at the Plymouth festival with t-shirts. He made a suggestion that each child performing receive a free pass to the Grass Valley festival. Discussion

followed. Rick Cornish made a motion to allow each child who is performing to be reimbursed for a purchased ticket. Kelly Senior seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

B. Music Camp — Frank Solivan gave a report. Discussion followed including insurance, number of campers, parents' role, arrangements to engage instructors and counselors, fees and miscellaneous other items. Frank explained the arrangements made for the camp in Cordova, Alaska. He said he is just bringing this loosely for the CBA board to consider. Rick Cornish made a motion that the CBA support a CBA sponsored children's music camp and that Frank Solivan return to the CBA board with a written proposal. Kelly Senior seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

C. Pre-Festival Music Camp Proposal — Rick Cornish distributed and reviewed a pre-festival music camp proposal. Discussion followed regarding fees and other aspects of the camp. Kelly Senior made a motion to approve the proposal with

the registration fee set at \$235.00. Don Denison seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was passed unanimously.

X. New Business:

A. Suzanne Denison began a discussion regarding the theft of instruments from Tommy Shewmake's truck. Tommy is a young bluegrass musician and was involved in an auto accident. While his truck was parked and he had gone to summon help, the theft occurred. Suzanne suggested establishing a fund to help with the replacement of the instruments. The CBA would not provide funds but would handle whatever funds were given. The consensus of the board was that the CBA should do this.

B. Howard Gold began a discussion regarding his costs associated with the photography he does for the CBA. Discussion followed.

C. January board meeting — The meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2001, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of John Duncan in Sacramento, CA.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sue Van Enger*



December 10, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Carl Pagter, Chairman of the Board, at 1:28 p.m. at the home of John Duncan in Sacramento, CA.

I. Roll Call:

Board Members and Officers Present: Carl Pagter, Montie Elston, J.D. Rhynes, Don Denison, Suzanne Denison, Kelly Senior, Mary Runge, George Martin, John Duncan, Rick Cornish, Matthew Dudman, Howard Gold, Sue Van Enger. Absent: Yvonne Gray, Bob Thomas, M.D. Culpepper, Karyn Noel, Mark Hogan, Roger Siminoff, Kathy Kirkpatrick.

Coordinators Present: Susan Rea, Tim Edes, Gene Kirkpatrick, David Runge. Absent: Bob Gillim, Terry Ingraham, John Senior, Suzanne Sullivan, Marsha Wooldridge, Mike McGar.

CBA Members Present: Robert Crowder, Frank Solivan, Sr.

II. Secretary's Report: Secretary Sue Van Enger reported she had distributed copies of the final November minutes to those board members present and would mail them to the absent board members. Mary Runge made a motion to accept the minutes as edited. J.D. Rhynes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Kelly Senior distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report.

IV. Membership Report: Mary Runge reported membership at 2805 with a purge completed through September 2000. The November renewal notices have been sent out and the December notices will be sent out shortly.

V. Mercantile: Montie Elston reported November sales of mercantile. Montie discussed any new items to be added to inventory. Carl Pagter told the board about some throws (small woven blankets) he had seen at the Nevada County fairgrounds in Grass Valley. He said he felt they would be a good mercantile item when made with the CBA emblem.

Synopsis of the December 2000 CBA Board Minutes

Discussion followed. Kelly Senior began a discussion regarding putting the CBA mercantile on our website. Discussion followed and Montie will look into this also.

VI. Publicity: George Martin spoke about publicity efforts in

accordance with the festival timeline.

VII. Procurement: Susan Rea introduced herself. She said that she would like to have her role defined. She also would like everyone who uses supplies to let her know what they have in

their inventories. That way, she can make a master inventory and see what is needed.

VIII. Old Business:

A. Activities Reports:

1. CBA Activities: Bob Thomas was not present. In his absence, Don Denison

distributed Bob's report and reviewed it. Carl Pagter said it is time to renew the CBA insurance and talked about the limitations of the insurance policy in connection with the number of

Continued on page 14

Announcing the First Ever California Bluegrass Association MUSIC CAMP

For students of Bluegrass and Old-Time Music

June 11-13, 2001

At the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

Offering small-group instruction for advanced-beginner to intermediate level players. The focus of the camp is to improve your skill and knowledge on your own instrument, and to work on your playing in a group situation (jamming). Music Camp coordinator Ingrid Noyes and camp advisor Bill Evans have line-up an outstanding staff of instructors. Instructors and instruments are:

• Bluegrass Banjo; Kathy Kallick - Vocals; Jim Nunally - Guitar; John Reischman - olin; Markie Sanders - Bass; Jack Tuttle - Fiddle; Sally Van Meter - Dobro and Old-time Banjo - instructor to be announced.

You'll also enjoy: • Group practice and jams • Evening jam sessions • Staff concerts • Welcome dinner on Sunday • Continental Breakfast every morning • Wednesday night farewell Barbecue • Camping on site and More!

Music Camp Fees -- \$235 before May 15, 2001

\$260 after May 15, 2001 -- per person

Class Sizes will be limited -- Reserve Your Space TODAY!



Yes! Sign me up—

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Instrument: ☐ guitar ☐ old-time banjo
☐ fiddle ☐ bluegrass banjo
☐ dobro ☐ mandolin
☐ bass ☐ vocals

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to CBA Music Camp

Cost of the camp:

Before May 15, 2001	\$235.00
After May 15, 2001	\$260.00

This includes all instruction and activities for the three days, continental breakfast each morning and dinner the first and last nights. Camping fees may be extra.

For more information, contact:
Ingrid Noyes at 707-878-2415
or e-mail: ingrid@sun.net
We expect this camp to fill up, and advise you to register early!

Send this form with payment to:
CBA Music Camp
c/o Ingrid Noyes
P.O. Box 194
Tamales, CA 94971



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

10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Grasshoppers
10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Modern Hicks CA Showcase
11:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.	Keith Little Band
12:35 p.m.	1:35 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops
1:35 p.m.	2:20 p.m.	Lost Highway
2:30 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Jimmy Bowen & Santa Fe
3:25 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	James King Band
4:20 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	Pacific Crest CA Showcase
5:15 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	Lynn Morris Band
6:00 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops
7:30 p.m.	8:15 p.m.	Good Ol' Persons Reunion
8:25 p.m.	9:10 p.m.	Crooked Jades CA Showcase
9:20 p.m.	10:05 p.m.	Lynn Morris Band
10:15 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	James King Band

Friday 6-15-01

10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Jimmy Bowen & Santa Fe
10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Vince Combs & Shadetree Bluegrass
11:50 a.m.	12:35 p.m.	Good Ol' Persons Reunion
12:35 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops
1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	Lost Highway
2:25 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	Keith Little Band
3:30 p.m.	4:15 p.m.	Grasshoppers
4:25 p.m.	4:55 p.m.	Kids on Bluegrass
5:05 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	Cloggers
5:35 p.m.	6:35 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops
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

Saturday 6/16/01

10:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	New Piney Creek Weasels
10:55 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition
11:50 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops
1:30 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley
2:25 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	Vince Combs & Shadetree
3:20 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	Lonesome River Band
4:15 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	New Piney Creek Weasels
4:55 p.m.	5:40 p.m.	Cloggers
5:40 p.m.	6:45 p.m.	Dinner and Workshops
6:45 p.m.	7:15 p.m.	Kids On Bluegrass
7:15 p.m.	7:45 p.m.	Board Presentations
7:55 p.m.	8:40 p.m.	Seldom Scene
8:50 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition
9:45 p.m.	11:00 p.m.	Longview

Sunday 6-17-01

8:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Interdenominational Chapel
		Children's Program Stage
9:30 a.m.	11:20 a.m.	Gospel Show
11:30 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	Seldom Scene
12:15 p.m.	1:45 p.m.	Lunch and Workshops
1:45 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	Lonesome River Band
2:40 p.m.	3:25 p.m.	Ron Spears & Within Tradition
3:35 a.m.	4:20 p.m.	Seldom Scene
4:30 p.m.	5:15 p.m.	Lynwood Lunsford & Misty Valley
5:25 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	Lonesome River Band

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

~ Advance 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.

Advance Discount (3/1/00 - 6/1/01)

CBA Member Tickets	
4-Day Adult	\$65
4-Day Senior (65 & over)	\$55
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$35
3-Day Adult	\$50
3-Day Teen	\$30

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 (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
____ 4-Day Adult @ \$65
____ 4-Day Senior @ \$55
____ 4-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$35
____ 3-Day Adult @ \$50
____ 3-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$30

Non-Member Tickets
____ 4-Day Adult @ \$70
____ 4-Day Teen @ \$40
____ 3-Day Adult @ \$60
____ 3-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$35

Single Day Tickets
____ Thursday Only @ \$20
____ Friday Only @ \$25
____ Saturday Only @ \$25
____ Sunday Only @ \$15

CBA Member No. _____
Date of Order _____
Total Enclosed _____

Mail ticket order form, a SELF ADDRESSED, STAMPED LEGAL-SIZED ENVELOPE, and check or money order payable to the California Bluegrass Association (CBA) to:
CBA Festival Advance Tickets
David Runge
215 Grant Avenue
Petaluma, CA 94952

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

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

For Credit Card orders contact TicketWeb on the Internet @ www.ticketweb.com or call 510-704-4448
NO MEMBER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON TICKETWEB. ABSOLUTELY NO PETS. NO REFUNDS.
Bluegrass Breakdown, March 2001 - Page A-13

California State Senate honors Vern and Ray/Herb Pedersen

Through the efforts of Senator Deborah Ortiz, the State Senate passed a resolution approving Certificates of Recognition for Vern Williams, Ray Park, and Herb Pedersen as members of the influential Vern and Ray Band. The Certificates cite the outstanding contributions of these individuals to Bluegrass music in California.

Carl Pagter, representing the

CBA, made the presentations at a performance of the Laurel Canyon Ramblers in Sacramento on Feb. 10, 2001, both to Herb Pedersen, banjo player and tenor singer for the group in 1963-64, and to Ray Park, who attended the concert. Pedersen read a warm letter of commendation and congratulations to Vern and Ray from IBMA Executive Director Dan Hayes. Laurel Canyon

performed the Vern and Ray composition "Happy I'll Be" (included on Laurel Canyon's latest Sugar Hill Release "Back On The Street Again") during the show especially for Ray Park.

The concert marked the return of Bluegrass to the 24th Street Theatre (also known as the Sierra II Performing Arts Center), thanks to the efforts of Sacramento Fifth String Music Store owner, John Green and his brother Skip. The theatre, which seats approximately 240, is acoustically friendly, and is very conveniently located with ample parking. John Green promises more concerts at this venue in the future.

The Ramblers, consisting of lead singer/guitarist Roger Reed, vocalist/acoustic bassist Bill Bryson, vocalist/mandolinist Kenny Blackwell, and young prodigy fiddler Gabe Witcher, in addition to Pedersen, presented a superb evening of music. Sets featured a great mix of songs from the Bluegrass repertoire and selections composed by band members, highly talented song writers all. Laurel Canyon con-



cluded its northern California Sunday and Monday, Feb. 11 and tour with sold-out appearances 12. at Mill Valley's Sweetwater on

BLUEGRASS FOLKS

Continued from A-14
renity of outer space. At her home in LeClaire, Iowa, she has become a professional driver and transports handicapped kids with special needs to and from school, giving them special care and attention.

She and her husband, Ron recently bought a motor home about a half mile long and they plan to get a lot of use out of it soon. He is near to retirement and she will be also in the near future. Ron is not a bluegrass fan, but she was able recently to get him to attend a festival with her. After it was over, his comment was that it wasn't as bad as

he had thought it would be!

The year after Evelyn's first bluegrass experience, having had so much fun, she decided to do it again and asked Cheri to go with her. The bluegrass scene very quickly caught on with her, too. Now, they have both become a familiar sight, not only at Grass Valley, but at the IBMA extravaganza in Louisville and lots of festivals in several midwestern states. Bluegrass music has become a way of life for both of them.

And, friends, this story is true. I know because Evelyn is my sister and Cheri's daddy was my brother.



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Bluegrass Masters



Photo: Stacey Geikin

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for mastering by Joe Weed

Come jam with us — the CBA announces plans for annual Spring and NEW Summer Family Camp-outs

by Suzanne Denison

Bob Thomas, CBA Board member and Activities Vice President is happy to announce that in addition to holding two camp-outs a year, he has planned a new Summer Family Campout this year. Members are encouraged to attend and bring friends and family to join in the fun and enjoy the great music.

The CBA's Spring Campout has been a popular and well attended event since the early 1990s when Don and I organized the first one at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, Calif. It was a new concept for the association, and we really weren't sure how it would turn out. That first year there were only about 75 people who spent the weekend warming up their instruments and fingers for that year's festival and enjoyed socializing and/or listening to the jams.

Almost every year since then, the Spring campout has grown more popular — the exception being the year at the Italian Picnic Grounds in Sutter Hill when it rained cats and dogs — but there were still a number of hearty souls who persisted and held soggy but lively jam sessions in their RVs or under the picnic area roof.

This year Bob Thomas and his camp-out assistant, Bob Crowder, have found a new location for the Spring Campout. It will be held on April 27, 28 and 29 at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds, 220 Southgate Drive in Sonora, California. The campground there has a number of electric and water hookups for

RVs and a dumpstation, as well as a nice lawn area for tents. The price will be \$15 per night per unit. See map at left for directions or you can find a map of the area on the Internet by going to www.Yahoo.com and following the directions. The fairgrounds also has a web site at: www.motherlodefair.com, however, there is a very limited amount of information on the site.

The NEW Summer Family Campout will be held at Lake Francis Resort in Dobbins, California which is about 30 miles northeast of Marysville on August 17, 18 and 19. This is the first time the CBA has held a campout at a private campground and Lake Francis Resort has a number of amenities not usually found on fairgrounds.

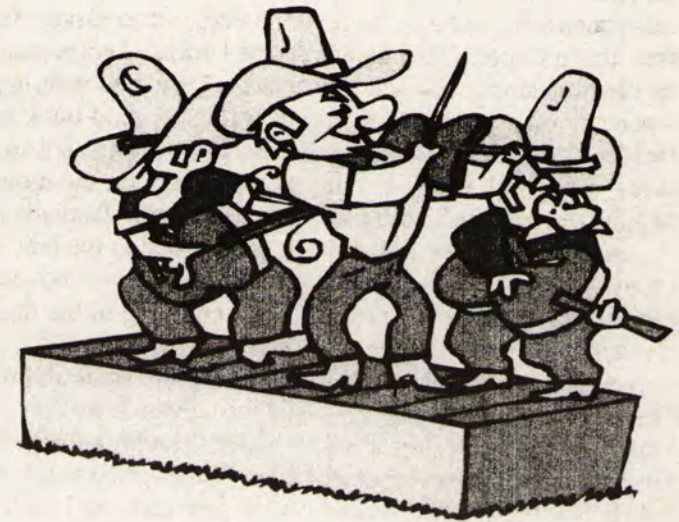
They offer 8 rustic cabins (bring sleeping bags) for rent, plenty of room for tents, and RV accommodations with full and partial hook-ups and pull-thru sites. There are restrooms and showers, a lodge, a laundromat, children's playground, a restaurant, swimming pool, and of course, fishing and swimming in Lake Francis. There are also mountain bike and nature trails within easy walking distance of the resort which is in the Sierra foothills at about 2300 ft. elevation. Pets are allowed at this resort, however you should call ahead to find out the cost and restrictions.

A special feature of this camp to encourage people to bring their children, there will be an organized children's program presented by Terry Ingraham.

Terry has been the Children's Program Coordinator at the CBA's Father's Day Bluegrass Festival for the past three years, is an experienced dance teacher, park ranger, and Boy Scout camp administrator. She is busy thinking up lots of fun activities to keep your young children amused while you relax and enjoy picking. If you would like to help Terry with this program (or at this June's festival) give her a call at 510-521-0475.

The cost for the Summer Family Campout will be \$18 per night per unit for RVs and \$15 per night per unit for tents. Reservations are not usually taken for our campouts, but since this is a private resort with lots of trees, it is necessary to make site reservations for RVs since not all of the sites can accommodate large rigs or those with pop-outs. To reserve space for your RV, call 888-993-7344. See the map on this page for general directions. For more information about the resort, visit their web site at: <http://lakefrancisrv.com> or call 888-993-7344.

Although the brochure I received was not very specific, from the web site it looks like there is one large A-Frame cabin which sleeps 6-8 people and 7 small cabins which sleep 4-6. There are outdoor cooking facilities available with each cabin but plan to bring your own bedding and cooking equipment or eat in the restaurant. For more information, rates, reservations etc. please call the resort at 888-993-7344 or visit the web site at <http://lakefrancisrv.com>.

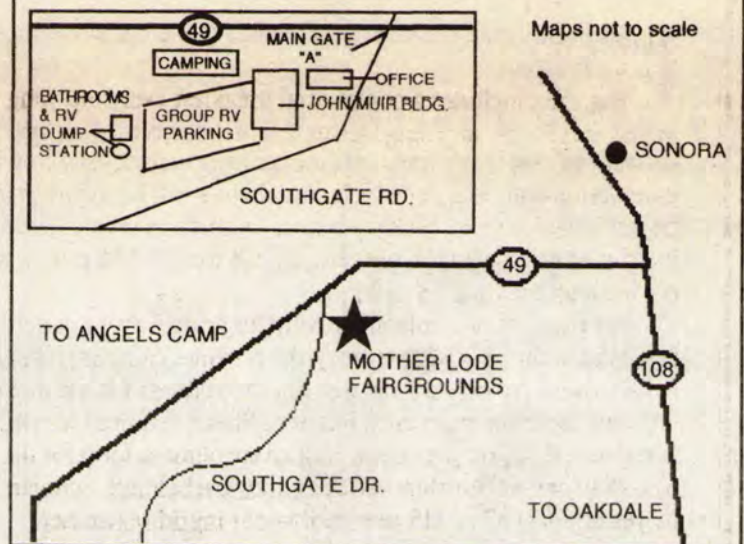


For those of you who have never attended a CBA campout, please come and bring your family and friends. These weekend events are a great opportunity to meet new friends, get caught up with old ones, limber up your fingers (or vocal chords) for the next festival, or just sit back, relax and enjoy the music and the

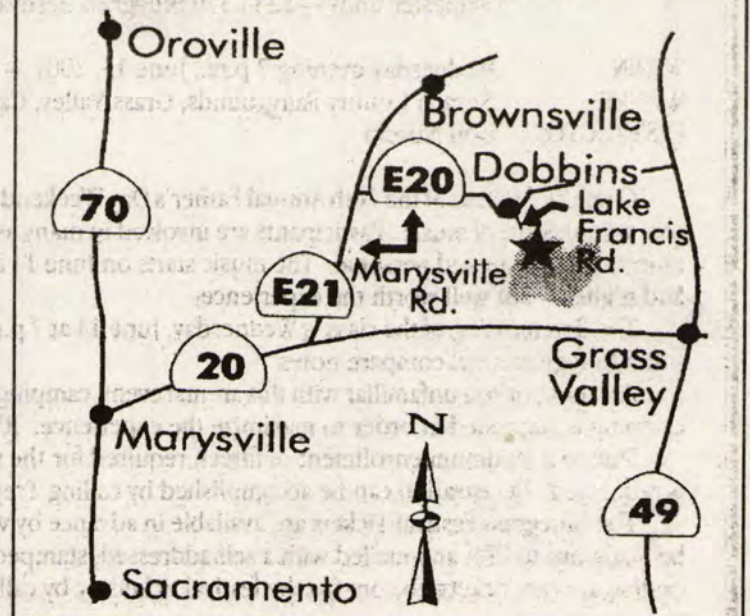
great fellowship within our Bluegrass family. If you can't come for the whole weekend, just drop in for a day or so and enjoy!

For more information on the camp-outs or other upcoming CBA activities, please call Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or e-mail: sacbluegrass@yahoo.com.

Map for Mother Lode Fairgrounds



Map for Lake Francis Resort



J.D.'S BLUEGRASS KITCHEN

Howdy, Howdy, Howdy!

Last month I wrote about the snow that was giving the mountains a coat of white. Well, that 'twarn't nothin' compared to this last storm that left an "overcoat" of snow of more than two feet deep here on Bluegrass Acres. Along with that I was out of power for a day and a half too.

Sitting here at my desk this morning about 11:45, the power came back on and the sun broke through the clouds and lit up my desk with its welcome warmth. The best things if life are free, folks! (I only wish my electric bill was too!) I know that a lot of us folks here in the mountains were asking the Lord for some more rain and snow to get us up to our

normal amount, but I don't think any of had an inkling that he was gonna give it to us all at once!

There's a good side to everything I guess. I got a chance to reacquaint myself with the joys of reading a good book by the light of an oil lamp. It is so quiet and still here on the mountain when it snows. Reminds me of my childhood in the hills of Arkansas. The only sound you hear is the crackling of the fire, and before you know it you've dropped your book and drifted off into dream land!

On the morning of Feb. 9th, the storm moved into the mountains here early, so I took a big chicken out of the freezer, put it to soak in a big pan of salt water

and about 4 p.m. I loaded one of my big ol' Dutch Ovens with it, some potatoes, carrots and onions, and slid it in the oven for an hour.

Meanwhile, I mixed up a big batch of North Carolina Butter-milk Biscuits and when the chicken was done, I slid that pan of biscuits in the hot oven for about 15 minutes. Outside the storm was blowing snow past the window, but I could have cared less! Needless to say, I fell asleep in front of the fireplace that night.

Well, it is a crisp, cold day here on the mountain, so pull a chair over here by the fire and I'll sweeten your cup of Cowboy Coffee with a little splash of

brandy that'll warm your innards while we swap some recipes for good vittles!

Once a week, the newspaper here will feature a variety of recipes. About every three or four weeks there will be one in there that's not too fancy or hard to fix. Last month though, I hit the jackpot, because two of this month's recipes were clipped out of the newspaper.

Here's a recipe that makes some great Quesadillas for breakfast:

BREAKFAST QUESADILLAS

8 eggs
7 TBS. clarified butter (melted

and skimmed of milky residue)
8 whole wheat tortillas
16 slices thick bacon, fried and kept warm
1 cup Guacamole
2 cups Salsa
Fresh Cilantro

Preheat oven to 250°F. Beat the eggs. Heat four tablespoons of the butter over medium heat; pour in eggs and cook until done to suit. Set aside and keep warm. Heat the remaining butter over medium-high heat. Cook each tortilla two minutes, turn, place 1/8 of the eggs, 2 strips bacon and 2 tablespoons Guacamole in the middle of the tortilla. Fold over. Cook 1 more minute to crisp tortilla. Place on pan in

Continued on page A-18



The University of San Diego Presents Two NEW professional growth classes for summer study

California Bluegrass Association Music Camp

2 semester units — \$185/Music Camp fee — \$235/TOTAL COST — \$420

WHEN: Sunday evening, 6 p.m., June 10, 2001 — Wednesday evening, June 13, 2001. (Three full days of music and instruction)
WHERE: Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, California
INSTRUCTOR: Don Nuccio

*Limited scholarships are available which waive the Music Camp fee for people willing to volunteer and assist in the music camp. Scholarships are on a first come, first served basis.

The class includes a continental breakfast every morning from 8-9 a.m. Morning instruction begins at 9:30 a.m. Participants will choose between one of eight instructors for the morning instruction in a variety of offerings. Topics such as banjo instruction, mandolin, and vocals among others will be available. In the afternoon session, topical workshops including music theory, how to work sound systems, and harmony singing, among others will be offered. After the topical workshops jam session will occur in which participants will be involved in instruction how to perform together as part of a group. An additional hour at the end of the day will be available for those seeking further instruction on a musical instrument. Finally, evening concerts and open microphones will be available to participants. Your instructor will meet with the class nightly from 6-7:30 p.m. The first night meeting will occur as part of the dinner on Sunday, June 10 at 6 p.m. and a farewell dinner on Wednesday, June 13 at 6 p.m.

For those of you unfamiliar with this annual event, it occurs at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. Camping is available on-site and included in your music camp fee. Due to the ongoing nature of the activities camping is suggested in order to maximize the experience. RV and tent sites are available on a first come, first served basis. There are no pets allowed and no refunds for the music camp.

Due to a minimum enrollment of fifteen required for the semester units to be provided, participants are required to pre-register and a down payment of \$25 is requested. Upon pre-registering an enrollment form for the Music Camp will be sent to you. Registration can be accomplished by calling Trey Anderson @ (530) 671-2849 or e-mailing him at treywend@pacbell.net. Scholarships are awarded by the California Bluegrass Association. Participants interested should contact Ingrid Noyes at (707) 878-2415 or e-mail her at ingrid@svm.net.

An American Experience: Bluegrass Music

3 semester units — \$235/\$70 Bluegrass Festival Ticket (California Bluegrass Association non-member price)/TOTAL COST — \$305

WHEN: Wednesday evening 7 p.m., June 13, 2001 — Sunday noon, June 17, 2001
WHERE: Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, California
INSTRUCTOR: Don Nuccio

Come and join us at the 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival June 14-17, 2001 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley and learn about this unique form of music. Participants are involved in many aspects of bluegrass music from formal concerts to informal nightly jam sessions. You will experience bluegrass up front and personal. The music starts on June 14 and we will catch every note. This is an intense and exciting music experience demanding long days and nights — but well worth the experience.

The first meeting of the class is Wednesday, June 14 at 7 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Each evening the class will meet with your instructor at 6 p.m. for an hour and a half to regroup and compare notes.

For those of you unfamiliar with this annual event, camping is available on-site and included in the cost of the festival. Due to the ongoing nature of the activities, camping is suggested in order to maximize the experience. RV and tent sites are available on a first come, first served basis.

Due to a minimum enrollment of fifteen required for the semester units to be provided, participants are required to pre-register and a down payment of \$50 is requested. Registration can be accomplished by calling Trey Anderson @ (530) 671-2849 or e-mailing him at treywend@pacbell.net.

The Bluegrass Festival Tickets are available in advance by writing to David Runge at 215 Grant Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952. Checks for the tickets only should be made out to CBA and mailed with a self-addressed, stamped legal size envelope. For ticket information, call 707-762-8735. Credit card orders can be arranged on-line at www.ticketweb.com for the festival tickets or by calling (510) 704-4448. There are no pets allowed and no refunds for the festival.

Breathing for Singing

By Elena Corey

From time to time bluegrass and old-time music performers may wonder whether formal singing instruction would be helpful to them. Most of our performers acknowledge taking care of their voices and have some tips on projection for people who ask them, but most bluegrass and old-time singers haven't gone through years of voice training and see no reason to do so. Neither do I. In the traditional music culture, we have an innate sense that such natural things the feeling of the song, itself, allows us to sing at our best when we forget all about the process and just express the emotion.

That insight is remarkable, and it has enabled hundreds of folks to relax and just let the music come out of their souls via their voices. But sometimes we damage our voices by doing such things as agreeing to sing, unamplified in a banjo camp or on a parade float in the wind. Or other times we may find ourselves short-winded when we want to hold a long note and so we listen, wistfully, to barrel-chested "natural" singers to try to discover how to use principles of breath control that formal disci-

plines, such as opera, have used for years.

A commonly seen irony is that a fast-improving instrumentalist will bother to learn as much as possible about the production of tone on his/her instrument — seeing luthiers about customizing and set up for the exact tone he or she desires. But that same instrumentalist will seldom give a thought to the mechanics of tone production of his or her voice. While you can't change your voice's tone ring, like you can your banjo's, and you can't shave off millimeters of your voice's housing, like you can improve your instrument's tone quality by incremental shaping, you can understand tone production of your voice and improve the way your voice sounds by using these principles, rather than fighting against them.

Back in the mid 1800s an Italian opera singing-coach named Francesco Lamperti said, "All there is in singing is in the breathing, and all there is in breathing is in the diaphragm." That sounds pretty inclusive. We know that voice is just vocalized breath. When your breath exhalation is finished, the tone ceases.

That's just as true when you're singing as when you are talking, whistling or snoring, (if you admit to doing those latter two things) so you do experience breath control through your voice. How you choose to develop it and use your voice is be a highly individualized matter.

Your diaphragm is your most important tool in breath control. If you understand how your diaphragm works and allow it to function at its fullest potential, singing becomes easy. Most of us know, for instance, that breathing smoke not only damages our lungs but also our voice box and diaphragm. Your diaphragm is located under your lungs, at the bottom of your chest cavity; something like an inverted saucer, and acts as a great resisting muscle.

The first step involved in taking a breath is contracting your diaphragm. Yes, you already know how to do this, even though it is automatic and you don't usually do it consciously. When the diaphragm contracts, it moves downward and forward. If you want to feel your diaphragm, place the tips of your fingers at the bottom of your breastbone



and pretend to blow out a whole lot of candles, as on a birthday cake. The throb you feel with this exhalation is your diaphragm moving.

To further experience your diaphragm in action, and as a second warm up exercise, take a series of short breaths as if you were imitating a panting dog, while you press your fingers against the bottom of your breastbone. Of course, you don't do this until you hyperventilate.

A third excellent exercise to help you practice noticing the work your diaphragm does while you breathe is this one: Inhale and hold your breath in while you feel a quick outward impulse

of your diaphragm. Let your breath out in a quick motion, using the sound of a hissing cat. Do this a few times until you've made this exercise rhythmical.

Singing with your lips closed or humming provides a fourth breath control exercise and additional opportunity for you to observe your breathing process. For instance, use the consonant combination "phm" and with your lips closed, sing a given pitch softly and staccato style. You can visualize this as measures of two/four time on a chosen note with a quarter note followed by a quarter note rest for each measure. Take a short breath at each rest and practice this exercise on various pitches and for various note durations, e.g. using 4/4 time with half notes and half note rests, eighth notes and eighth note rests, etc. This exercise is also good for cardiovascular toning.

So now you've pretended to blow out candles, panted like a dog, hissed like a cat and hummed with your lips closed. How do these exercises transform hum-drum singing into the kinds of singing people want for themselves? It is a process — like losing inches on the waistline — but if such exercises are practiced and used in conjunction with actual singing, results can become apparent/audible in as few as three weeks.

During all these exercises, good posture is important as is calmness and a general sense of relaxed well-being. Singing is a joyous thing and your body language should say so. Think of it as letting yourself sing, rather than making yourself sing.

These are introductory exercises; there are additional, more intermediate topics regard-

J.D.'S BLUEGRASS KITCHEN

Continued from A-17
oven to keep warm. Repeat with the rest of the tortillas. Place two Quesadillas on each plate, top with Salsa and fresh Cilantro.

These are great. Especially when served with a big mug of authentic Mexican hot chocolate for breakfast. They're also good for a quick, light lunch.

This next recipe features one of my favorites, Cornish Game Hens. I could hardly wait to fix this one and boy is it good! These would be great to fix at a festival. Just make sure you don't invite any more than one Banjo picker over to eat or you probably won't get any!

CORNISH HENS WITH MOROCCAN SPICES

4 Cornish Hens, split lengthwise
1 onion, grated or chopped
3 TBS. lemon juice
2 TBS. each: chopped Parsley, chopped Cilantro and olive oil

1/2 tsp. each: Cumin, Paprika, ground Ginger and white Pepper
1 tsp. salt

Rinse hens well and split. Place in a large baking dish. Mix together onion, lemon juice, parsley, cilantro, oil, salt, cumin, paprika, ginger and pepper. Pour over hens and marinate in the refrigerator for 2-8 hours, turning occasionally. Remove from marinade. Heat marinade to a boil and cook for five minutes. Heat grill to medium and cook hens 13-18 minutes per side or until a nice, golden brown. Or cook at 400° in a roasting pan 40-45 minutes in the oven. Serve drizzled with the marinade. Garnish with lemon wedges.

Let me tell you folks, I can sit down to a big plate of these and make the bones fly like chaff out of a wheat thresher! Next time you're looking for something different to fix for supper whip up a mess of these delectable little birds. Your family will love you for it. Not only do they taste

good, they're good for yer innards too! (They're low in cholesterol.)

Last night while the storm was blowing and howling like a pack of wolves outside, I cooked up a nice big steak for supper. Along with it I fixed what I call my "Winter Salad". This is one of those recipes that just kind of "happen". Some years ago in the dead of winter I was looking to see what I had on hand to make a salad out of for supper, and this recipe was the result.

WINTER SALAD

3 big tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 red bell pepper, chopped
1 small red onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
1 TBS. whole Oregano
3/4 cup mayonnaise
1/4 cup Balsamic vinegar
4 TBS. Worcestershire Sauce
2 TBS. Soy sauce
2 TBS. olive oil
Salt and fresh-ground pepper to

taste

Toss the tomatoes, bell pepper, onion and garlic together. Mix up rest of the ingredients until well combined and pour over the vegetables. Salt and pepper to taste. Refrigerate for 2-4 hours if possible. Mix again and serve.

Occasionally I'll substitute some chopped cabbage for the bell pepper if I don't have one on hand. There's no limit to the different variations you can use to make a good winter salad, I'm just partial to the tomato one. These really taste their best when you can let them sit in the refrigerator and "soak" for a day or so.

Well folks, I'd better get my ol' Dodge truck fired up and get this over to Suzanne while there's a break in the weather. Meet me right here by the cook stove next month and we'll swap some more stories.

Until then, may God grant you all peace and health.

Yer friend,
J.D. Rhynes

Continued on A-19

MUSIC MATTERS

Continued from A18
ing breathing such as the attack (or your manner of starting a tone), deep breathing, sustained even exhalations for long-held notes and other specific areas to address. But these basic exercises provide a foundation and a ray of hope to let your show yourself that you can make a difference in your singing by conscious attention.

One additional area of concern involves finding your own unique voice. It occasionally happens that when a singer begins to glimpse the possibilities possible through voice training

that that person will choose someone as a role model, and instead of just receiving mentoring and encouragement from that person, he or she will emulate the admired person so completely as to try to duplicate their voice sounds. That can feel like buying a coat two sizes too large and hoping to grow into it. As the preacher says, "We are all

born into this world as originals, why do so many of us want to be carbon copies?" Every voice has its identity embedded in it as surely as your DNA is in every cell of your body, and bringing out your uniqueness is a much greater gift to the world than being an imitator would be.

*Happy singing to you.
Elena*

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"Bluegrass Signal" schedule announced for March

"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. March features include:

- March 3: Spotlight On The 5: co-host Sandy Rothman returns with part two of an interview with and the music of WYNN OSBORNE, another underheralded master of the bluegrass banjo.
- March 10: Native & Fine: banjo-player Bill Evans drops by to present some of his music with Cloud Valley, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Bluegrass Intentions, Peter Rowan Bluegrass Band, "The Banjo In America," his two solo albums, and more.
- March 17: Wearin' Of The Blue(Grass): co-host Scott O'Nygaard presents a survey of the Irish influence on bluegrass, plus bluegrass versions of Irish music. Scott's old boss, Tim O'Brien's "The Crossing" is featured, and fingers are crossed for a bit of guitar music from the esteemed co-host.
- March 24: Classic Bluegrass Guitar Riffs, from the G run to the "If I Lose" break to the "OBS" intro, presented (and, I hope, demonstrated) by another great guitar playing co-host, Steve Pottier.
- March 31: There's always an onslaught of New Releases at this time of year (the better to qualify for IBMA awards), so here's a generous sample of them.

Virtual Band

*** A Bluegrass Method For ***

BANJO, GUITAR, FIDDLE, DOBRO, MANDOLIN, OR BASS

"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.

OTHER IMPORTANT CHAPTERS INCLUDE:

- Scales and fingering studies
- How to count and keep good timing
- The use of vibrato (fiddle), to make your playing sound warmer
- Learning to sight read better
- Understanding music theory
- Picking direction and Bass runs

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.

Please Specify Instrument When Ordering.

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An Interview with Dr. Ralph Stanley

By Warren McGuffin
Photos Jim Bottorff

As part of the San Francisco Bluegrass and Old Time Festival, I had the pleasure of representing our organization while having the honor of a personal interview with the legendary Dr. Ralph at the Freight and Salvage Coffeehouse in Berkeley, Calif.

The two sets by Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys were outstanding. Anytime you get a chance to see this legend do it. He is truly a treasure to bluegrass and old-time mountain music.

CBA: What is your earliest memory of Bluegrass Music?

RALPH STANLEY: Well My earliest memory of bluegrass music was 1965, that was when the music got its name. That was the 1st bluegrass festival. The reason it was called bluegrass was that they named it after Bill Monroe who was from the Bluegrass State of Kentucky and his band was The Blue Grass Boys. But I played the music long before it was known as bluegrass. It was called "Old Time Country" or "Mountain Music".

But, my very earliest as a child I was probably about 11 years old. We got a radio in 1936 and I began listening to radio shows maybe the Grand Ole Opry of it was on then. Morning radio shows with Grandpa Jones, you know different people like that.

CBA: Your band is composed of you, your son and others. You have been responsible for introducing new musicians such as Ricky Skaggs. How did you find these talented individuals like Skaggs and Keith Whitley?

R.S.: Ricky Skaggs and Keith Whitley were Kentucky boys and they grew up listening to my music. They came out to a personal appearance one night and I was late getting there. They filled in for me until I got there. After the show they said anything I could ever do for them they would appreciate it. I liked the boys and saw some potential in them and I said we had a full band but get in with me and I take you with me. They started with me about a week later.

CBA: Last year you were awarded the "Living Legend Medal" from the Library of Congress. Quite an honor to receive. Did you ever dream that a banjo picker from Virginia would receive such an honor?

R.S.: No, I never did never even thought there was such a thing. I have been called a legend a lot but now I glad it is official.

CBA: You also were inducted into the Grande Ole Opry last year.

R.S.: 15th of January 2000.

CBA: This year it is songs on a very popular movie. What's this year to bring?

R.S.: 2001 looks real good. I have some songs in this movie "Oh Brother Where Art Thou" and I sang a song in the movie "Oh Death" and "I am a man of Constant Sorrow" which I arranged and have featured for 55 years and they did the same version of it except they put a beat with it, which I think is good. Carter and me, you know the Stanley Brothers, were on that movie with the angel band and I think that's going to help me a lot.

CBA: Your Clinch Mountain Country album was nominated for a Grammy and won the IBMA Album of the Year and Recorded Event of the Year. It was quite a massive undertaking with lots of artists. Did all the musicians on the album ever meet in the studio at one time? How did you find time to help in review and editing while traveling as much as you do?

R.S.: Not everyone at the same time. Maybe three a day at the most would come into the studio. I made 10 trips to Nashville. Took 10 months to do that album.

CBA: Do you make recordings of yourself or the band for future references while developing a new piece of music?

R.S.: I have a few times.

CBA: You have taught music and have a Doctorate in music. When writing music, do you

put the music down in written form for the other musicians in your band?

R.S.: No, you see I don't know a note of music as far as writing any music down. I play by ear and right by ear. If a melody comes to me I try to put words to it.

CBA: Who do you listen to?

R.S.: Well, Ralph Stanley and the Stanley Brothers mostly. I listen to George Jones sometimes.

CBA: Do you ever play other types of music on your banjo?

R.S.: No I don't.

CBA: "Man of Constant Sorrow" is a great song. How did it happen to come into being?

R.S.: Our version of it, I heard my daddy sing that. I was 9 or 10 years old, he didn't play any instrument but he sang that song. That song is at least 100 years maybe 300 years old. But we arranged that style of it and put some words to it.

CBA: The solo by you "Oh Death" in the picture was sang by a member of the Klu Klux Klan. Did you know they were going to do that?

R.S.: Ha-ha. You know I never thought much about it. I saw a big KKK come out in a red suit, I didn't think that was me. It's all right I guess. It suits me if it does everybody else.

CBA: Where did the idea of this song come from?

R.S.: Well the producers wanted "Oh Death". Carter and me the Stanley Brothers recorded "Oh Death" but we did a trio on it and I recorded it later with Keith Whitley. But there an old fellow by the name of Doc Bogs, he's a lot older than I am. He sang a similar version but he picked a banjo with it. The movie people said that was the version they wanted. I said let me sorta get one of my own. So I sang it a capella and put more in it and the way I felt it and they liked it.

CBA: You have been playing as



Ralph Stanley

Photo by Jim Bottorff

long as Earl Scruggs but he is known for inventing 3-finger picking style. How do you differ from him?

R.S.: Well Earl plays a little more fancier than I do. He puts a little more in it. Now the way I try to play, I try to speak every word with that banjo that I sing. It is so simple a lot of people can't play that way, but it speaks out the words. Some fellows just waller around it and put a lot of extra work in it and I never did want to do that.

I try to speak every word with those strings that I sing.

CBA: Who taught you to play?

R.S.: My Mother would tune up a banjo and taught me old clawhammer tunes the first time. Other than that I just took out on my own.

CBA: Did you practice much when you were learning to play.

R.S.: No not much, some when I was starting out. Now once or twice before I hit the stage sometimes. I might have been better had I practiced more.

CBA: I notice you play an Archtop banjo as compared to a flathead. What is the reason?

R.S.: Yea there is a reason it is

because they are lot keener, and a lot brighter sound and I like a bright sound to it. Lot of the flathead banjo players they all sound alike to me, they sound like a drum and old dead thud, so that's why I like it to kinda spark out there a bit.

CBA: How many banjos do you own?

R.S.: I probably got about 3 now.

CBA: Do you play the same ones all the time?

R.S.: No, You see, I sell banjos, the Stanleytone. I believe I have about 10 left. It's the last series I am ever going to make. A 50th anniversary signature series that I sign. There was a fellow by the name of Frank Neat years and years ago. I owned an old RB5 I think. I go it in Sacramento, California in 1959 and I liked the sound of it. Almost everybody wanted to know how I got that sound especially Frank Neat. He asked if he could take it down and said he wanted to make some banjos and said he was going to make me one. I let him take it and he made a copy of it. Now all the Stanleytones are like that one and I have never seen or heard anything else like it. We sell those for

An Interview with Ralph Stanley

Continued from A-20

\$7500.

CBA: Do you set up your banjo in any particular way?

R.S.: I used to set mine up. I play a banjo that Frank makes until I sell it. And he knows exactly how I like it. If I don't like it I redo it but he suits me pretty well. Sometimes I play one a month sometimes four a month before I sell them.

CBA: How often do you change you strings

R.S.: Well probably every 8 or 10 years. Ha-ha-ha. I might break one every now and then. But Steve Sparkman with me know, he plays a fine banjo and usually keeps my strings changed I guess about every month or so. I have on the one I spoke about strings might have been on there 15 years.

CBA: Do you tune in any particular way?

R.S.: I typically tune to standard G. But capo up or down every now and the to a A or

B, Bflat. On "Shout Little Lullie" the first tune I learned to play clawhammer I tuned the 2nd up and the 4th down to C. I recall one or two that I tune the 2nd and 3rd and 5th down that I call a "Saw Mill" tuning A D tuning. I do "Hard Times" that way. I don't use any tuners.

CBA: When you travel by Airplane do you carry on you banjo or check it.

R.S.: I carry it on most of the time. I tune the strings down real loose.

CBA: Where do you see Bluegrass music heading?

R.S.: Bluegrass music is still climbing. I think it is more popular today than it has been anytime. I know it is for me. I turn down 40 or 50 Bluegrass Festivals a year because I can't play that many. Too many weekends. I don't know anybody else that does that, I don't know what it is. I am just about the only traditional (named band) that you can find now days. That



Ralph Stanley and his son Ralph, Jr.

Photo by Jim Bottorff

could be what it is, I don't know. There are other people that put more in it and other things in it. I am still traditional playing like it was heard the 1st time.

CBA: Can you tell our members a little about the Ralph Stanley that we don't see? For instance home life, hobbies, pets, family etc.

R.S.: I busier at home than I am at home. I am sorta an

outdoorsman. I can't set in the house much. I got to be on the go. I got a little hobby, a few heads of cattle, some horses. I used to hunt some but got to old for that. I just like anybody else. I'm just an old plain country boy.



Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys

Photo by Jim Bottorff

Stanley Facts:

Ralph Stanley, born 1927 in Dickenson County, Virginia. Lives in Coeburn, Virginia.

His music recently featured in Coen brother's film "film "O Brother, Where Art Thou." (2001)

Recently featured in *New Yorker*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *USA Today*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Newsweek*.

Among his numerous honors are:

- Recipient of Library of Congress "Living Legend" medal, April 24, 2000.
- Six-time Grammy nominee — the most recent for his albums I Feel Like Singing Today w/ Jim Lauderdale and Clinch Mountain Country: Ralph Stanley and Friends.
- First recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities "Traditional American Music Award" presented in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan.
- International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Hall of Honor in 1992.
- IBMA's "Recorded Event of the Year for Saturday Night/Sunday Morning - September, 1993.
- Honorary Doctorate of Music from Lincoln Memorial University in Heritage, TN, 1976.
- Kentucky Colonel, Honorarium presented by then Gov. Wendall Ford.

Musical

Accomplishments:

Performed continually since 1946. Still does over 150 dates a year.

Ralph Stanley is the most towering figure in Bluegrass today.

Has recorded over 170 albums, more than 30 albums in over 30 years with Rebel Records.

Has written and recorded many songs that have become bluegrass standards.

Continued on A-22

Noteworthy appearances:

- TNN "The Life and Times of Ralph Stanley" first aired during 1999.
- Featured in the bluegrass segment of "A Century of Country," a 13-show series airing on TNN.
- Performed for Presidents Carter and Clinton's Inaugurations (1977 & 1993)
- Performed at Library of Congress Bicentennial Celebration in April, 2000.
- Two extensive tours of Europe.
- Three tours of Japan and the Far East.
- Performed at The Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, England.
- Numerous appearances at the Ryman Auditorium, Grand Ole Opry, Austin City Limits, Carnegie Hall, Hollywood Palace, Tramps (NY).

RECORDING REVIEWS



Best of Woodland 2000 Live Various Artists

Doug Bianchi
124 Boulder St.
Nevada City, CA 95959
530-265-6743
e-mail: dbianchi@nccn.net

Songs: *Calaphine, If Lonely Was The Wind, I Feel Too Good to Sing the Blues, Everybody's Courtin' My Irene, China Bay, Gospel Creek, Columbus Stockade Blues, Stormy Horizons, You're Not Easy to Forget, Sea of Heartbreak, Cryin' Holy Unto The Lord, John Henry, Blues For Your Own, Little Rabbit/Tennessee Blues, Bright Lights And Fast times, I've Just Seen The Rock of Ages, Call Me A Taxi, Buck's Run, Dark Moon, That Gospel Train Is Coming.*

Personnel: Stone Creek (Cary Cochran - mandolin, guitar,

Stanley Musical Accomplishments

Continued from A-21

Has unique style - unlike Bill Monroe's style or Flatt & Scruggs'. He is one of the last living founders of this distinctly American art form, which blends rural-based lyrics with fluid, jazz-like instrumental improvisations.

Stanley's music—particularly his high, mournful vocals—is so raw, powerful and authentic that it moves and inspires performers from all musical genres. Bob Dylan, Dwight Yoakam, Vince Gill, Jerry Garcia, Hal Ketchum, Patty Loveless, John Anderson credit Stanley as a major inspiration.

He has a "cool factor" among younger musical stars unmatched by anyone else in the country/bluegrass scene.

Stanley's band, the Clinch Mountain Boys, has been the incubator for two generations of country and bluegrass superstars, including Ricky Skaggs and the late Keith Whitley.

Ralph Stanley is a country music-based star who continues to live in and draw strength from the country, in his case the remote mountainous region of southeastern Virginia.

Ralph Stanley is to bluegrass music what Duke Ellington was to jazz, Elvis Presley to rock and Pete Seeger to folk.

dobro; Montie Elston - bass; Keith Wiggins - guitar; Ken Eldridge - banjo, mandolin, guitar; Western Lights (Melvin Fong - fiddle, hammer dulcimer, vocals; Mike Brooks - banjo, mandolin; Bill Ward - guitar, vocals; Jerry Hendricks - bass; Martha Evins - fiddle, vocals); Red Dirt Bullies (Dennis Sullivan - mandolin, vo-

cals; John Wahl - bass, vocals; Howard Coffman - guitar, vocals; Kris Hare - banjo, vocals); Past Due (Rudy Darling - fiddle; James Carlson - mandolin; Mark Botic - bass; Gary Sobonya - guitar; Luke Wilson - banjo); Grass Menagerie (Rick Cornish - fiddle, vocals; Phil Cornish - mandolin, vocals; Ron Lauder - guitar, vo-

cals; Eric HaoGulf - bass, vocals; Rich Ferguson - banjo, dobro, vocals); Hoof Hearted (Bob James - guitar, vocals & Ernie Hunt - dobro, vocals); Circle R Boys (Bob Waller - guitar, vocals; Steve Pottier - mandolin, vocals; Paul Bernstein - banjo, vocals; Josh Hadley - bass, vocals); River City Boys (Rich Del Chiaro - man-

dolin, vocals; Steve Krouse - banjo, vocals; Wayne Carr - guitar, vocals; Gerry Mamola - dobro, vocals; Jim Notman - bass); High Country (Butch Waller - mandolin, vocals; Larry Cohea - banjo, vocals);

Continued on page A-23

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Key of C

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RECORDING REVIEWS

Continued from A-22

vocals; Jim Mintun - dobro, guitar; Tom Bekeney - fiddle, vocals; Glenn Dauphin - bass; Mountain Laurel (Pete Siegfried - mandolin, vocals; Ken Nilsson - guitar, vocals; Rick Grant - fiddle, vocals; Paul Siese - banjo, vocals; Doug Bianchi - bass); Kathy Kallick Band (Kathy Kallick - guitar, vocals; Tom Bekeney - mandolin, fiddle, vocals; Avram Siegel - banjo, vocals; Amy Stenberg - bass, vocals); Green Brothers (Jon Green - guitar, vocals; Skip Green - bass, vocals; Robert Bowden - banjo, fiddle; Jim Beeler - mandolin).

by Suzanne Denison

"The Best of Woodland 2000 Live" is the long-awaited live recording of the first ever Woodland Bluegrass held at the Woodland Fairgrounds held November 10-12, 2000. Recorded and produced by Doug Bianchi of Nevada City, the 20 song CD brings back great memories for those of us who were there, but it can also be enjoyed by fans of good bluegrass performed by some of the best bands in Northern California.

Doug worked the entire festival weekend with sound man Paul Knight and the results are of the same high acoustic quality that Paul provided to the live event. There is at least one song (and as many as three) from each of the bands who played and wanted to be included on the recording.

There were some outstanding performances during the Woodland festival as this recording demonstrates. Since I don't want to slight anyone, it's difficult to pick out a favorite cut or band — they're all great! The quality of musicianship demonstrated by Northern California's own is just phenomenal — you'll have to listen for yourself to see if you agree.

The choice of material by the bands represented ranges from traditional bluegrass tunes, brother duets and hard-driving instrumentals to original songs written by band members, with a few great Gospel and swing songs thrown in for good measure.

Since the festival is already scheduled to take place again in November of 2001, you'll want to get a copy of this CD since it may become a collector's item. I would highly recommend it to anyone who likes good, Blue-

grass music.

Not only did Doug Bianchi produce and engineer "Best of Woodland 2000 Live", he also put up all of the money to make this project happen. After Doug recoups his costs and pays royalty fees, all of the proceeds from the CD will be donated to the California Bluegrass Association. So, here's your chance to hear some great music, support Northern California Bluegrass bands, re-pay Doug for his efforts, and donate to the CBA! How can you lose?

To order your copy, send your check for \$17.66 (payable to Douglas Bianchi) to 124 Boulder St., Nevada City, CA 95959. This fee covers the cost, tax, plus postage from Doug's house to your mailbox. If you have any questions, you can either call Doug at 530-265-6743 or e-mail: dbianchi@nccn.net.



Rock-It 'Harp

Tina Louise Barr

Tina Louise Barr
1801 H Street, Suite B5 PMB #225
Modesto, CA 95354
209-480-4477

Songs: *I'm Walkin', Runaway, Unchained Melody, I've Just Seen a Face, Younger Girl, Tennessee Flat Top Box, San Francisco Bay Blues, Cathy's Clown, The Lion Sleeps Tonight, Proud Mary, Lodi, Queen of Hearts, The House of the Rising Sun, Under the Boardwalk, Ring of Fire.*

Personnel: Tina Louise Barr - autoharp. Guest artists: Ken Darby - lead and rhythm guitar; Rick Restivo - acoustic bass, trumpets; Steve Duych - drums.

by Suzanne Denison

"Rock-It 'Harp" is the newest recording by Tina Louise Barr, a virtuoso performer on the Autoharp. When most folks think about the autoharp, they remember Mother Maybelle Carter or perhaps Pop Stoneman and their styles on the instrument. It is best known as an instrument to strum for folk tunes and gentle ballads — but Tina puts a whole new slant on the Autoharp with

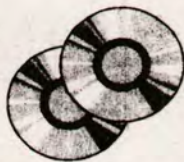
this project.

If you grew up in the '50s and '60s (as I did), listening to good old rock and roll, you'll recognize the songs above. The liner notes describe the material on the CD as "a classic collection of vintage hits. So if '50s and '60s rock and roll is played in the twenty-first century, it really now becomes traditional music. Especially on an Autoharp."

There is no way this can be described as Bluegrass or even Old-time music. However, Autoharpists or fans of the sound of the instrument will enjoy listening to the way in which Tina Louise Barr uses her musical skills to make these tunes sound interesting and new on her harp. Just as Bryan Bowers uses his skills to make his Autoharp to create the illusion of many instruments, Tina Louise is able to produce a multitude of clear, vibrant notes so that your ear doesn't miss the rest of the band which you would associate with the original versions of these songs.

I enjoyed listening to the entire project and would highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys the Autoharp or is looking for unusual material to perform. Tina Louise Barr performs as a solo or with the backing of her husband John Gwinner and Frank Solivan, Sr. in the Modesto, Calif. area. She also teaches and presents workshops at festivals and Autoharp gatherings, and has written lessons for the Autoharp Quarterly.

"Rock-It 'Harp" is available in both Cassette (\$12) and CD (\$17) formats from the address above, and the prices includes shipping and handling.



When The Cactus Is In Bloom

Bob Bovee and Gail Heil

Copper Creek Records
CCCD-0181
P.O. Box 3161
Roanoke, VA 24015

Songs: *Dry And Dusty, Long Side Of The Santa Fe Trail, The Yellow Rose of Texas, The Cowboy's Wife, Viola Ruth Schottische, So Long, It's Been*

Good To Know You, The Sportin' Cowboy, California Blues, The Dying Ranger, Robinson County, When The Cactus Is In Bloom, Escudilla Waltz, The Farmer Is The Man, Get Along, Little Dogies, Spotted Pony, Lee's Ferry/The Jones Waltz.

Personnel: Bob Bovee - vocals, guitar, harmonica; Gail Heil - vocals, fiddle, banjo.

by Suzanne Denison

"When The Cactus Is In Bloom" is the latest Copper Creek Records project by Minnesota Old-time musicians Bob Bovee and Gail Heil. All of the songs on the recording tell stories of pioneer or cowboy life in the old west of the United States.

Although some of the songs were familiar to me, there were many which I had never heard before such as "The Cowboy's Wife," "Viola Ruth Schottische," and "California Blues". The liner notes give extensive historical information on each song, however, it would have been helpful to this reviewer to learn a little more about the musicians.

Bob Bovee wrote an interesting paragraph which helps to explain the choice of the songs on this recording. He said: "Many of the songs on this album are 'war horses,' I suppose. They've been performed and recorded many times, but we all have a little different take on how to

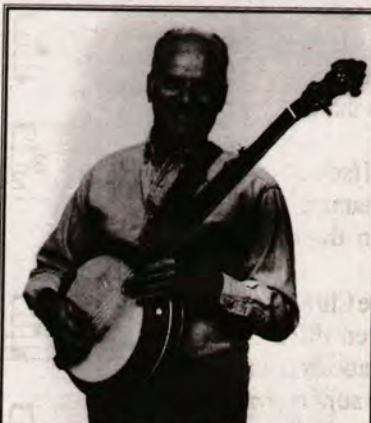
sing and play them. It seems like they can stand a few more miles without being rode into the ground. Our favorite music is the raw old-time sound of fiddlers we've known, the unaccompanied singing of our families, primitive 78 rpm recordings. It's the, the passion, the clarity, and the immediacy of that music that has always drawn us and we hope that our attempt at these songs catches those feelings."

Since I am a fan of Old-time music and preserving our nation's musical heritage, I really enjoy listening to the music of Bovee and Heil. They are both talented instrumentalists and vocalists but don't look for flashy guitar licks or a polished band sound — this recording reminds me more of a good porch pickin' session or a country barn dance.

I would highly recommend "When The Cactus Is In Bloom" to fans of Old-time or western music. You'll be sure to enjoy it.




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BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN

A review of the second annual San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival

By George Martin

After starting last year on a shoestring and a prayer (well, maybe a shoestring and a gospel song), the San Francisco Bluegrass and Old Time Festival this year was expanded considerably with more dates, more prominent talent, and even a pair of film programs.

The hard-working SFBOT committee secured major sponsorships from SF Weekly, one of San Francisco's alternative newspapers, and Anchor Steam Beer. They established a Web site of their own. They enlisted a printer, Image Direct, to help with the printing, and got money from the San Francisco Arts Commission.

They mounted an exceptional publicity campaign that snagged several favorable mentions in the Chronicle. Somehow, possibly aided by the recent success of the theatrical feature, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" bluegrass music percolated up into the mainstream media consciousness sufficiently that the SFBOT was featured on KQED-FM's "California Report"

radio show on Friday, Feb. 9. Radio reporter Rachel Martin interviewed Barbara Hansen and Matt Knoth of All Wrecked Up, and Eric and Suzy Thompson of the Bluegrass Intentions.

Suzy Thompson certainly gets the award for most pithy bluegrass public radio sound bite as she compared the pleasures of singing in a bluegrass band to having sex. Fortunately her hubby's in the band.

Saturday night's show at the Noe Valley Ministry, the second night of the festival, drew a crowd that lined up along the street and around the corner to see the Intentions, Jackstraw and John Reischman and the Jaybirds.

I had not seen the Bluegrass Intentions before, though I have been well aware of the talents of members Bill Evans, the Thompsons, Alan Senauke and Larry Cohea. The group has a nice trio blend, great instrumental chops and favors a wonderful repertoire of classic bluegrass songs and material adapted from the folkier side of things.

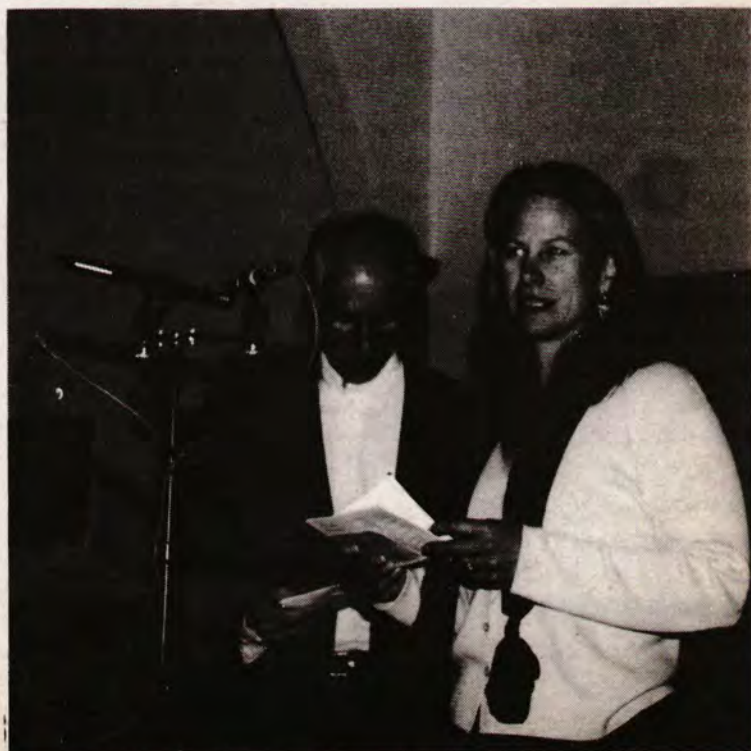
They started off with

Leadbelly's song, "On a Monday," which Johnny Cash later adapted into "I've Got Stripes." They did "Poor Ellen Smith," a classic murder ballad, and a smooth trio, "May You Never Be Alone Like Me," with Senauke, Evans and Suzy Thompson singing mellow harmonies and Evans doing nice double-stop banjo work.

Suzy Thompson's fiddle style is a big part of the Intentions' sound. In her other musical lives she plays a lot of Cajun fiddle, and in the Intentions that influence can easily be heard with the drone notes, shuffles and double stops she likes to use. This gives the band a lot of drive and gets toes tapping all around the hall.

Continuing in the classic vein, the band did a Carter Family song, "You Got To Right That Wrong Someday," and sang a nice version of the Flatt & Scruggs gospel song, "Get in Line Brother if You Want to Go Home."

They wound up by bringing on Evie Laden to do a bit of clog dancing to Suzy Thompson's fiddling of "Sally in the Turnip Patch." I believe Laden is the



Karyn Noel, right, and KPFA "Panhandle Country" DJ Tom Diamant, introduce the acts at the Noe Valley Ministry in San Francisco Saturday night.
Photo by George Martin

best clogger I have ever heard, bar none. Not only is she in rhythm to the band's beat, but the clicks of her shoes flowed with the melody in the most synchronized way. It was a really remarkable performance, made even more so by the crisp sound system (by Allen Lam Pro Audio) which was virtually transparent all night.

Lam's assistant told me that since all the bands agreed to use a simple stereo, two-mike setup, the sound man's job was made considerably easier. The microphones were the slim, electret condenser type, and the sound from the Klipsch speakers was more like a fine stereo in your living room than a typical PA system.

Jackstraw is a four-piece band from Oregon, two guitars, a mandolin and a bass, that plays a throbbing style of old-time and bluegrass that somehow has an underlay of rock 'n' roll about it. They are all youngish musicians, maybe in their twenties, hip-looking and by all reports able to

make their classic roots-country music work in the rock clubs of Portland.

They began with an up-tempo version of "Shady Grove," did an instrumental I didn't catch the name of, and went into Gram Parson's "Sin City," which they did with nice trio harmony.

With Jimmie Rodgers' "Brakeman's Blues," they were able to create that punk-old timey sound reminiscent of the way the Soggy Bottom Boys supercharged "Man of Constant Sorrow" in the movie, "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" Rodgers' blues, of course, are real close to rock 'n' roll. Rodgers himself played a pretty straight country beat, but it doesn't take much to put a little more funk in his songs, and Jackstraw did that quite effectively.

Jon Neufeld sang that song and played a hot lead guitar. The other band members are rhythm guitarist Darrin Craig, David Pugh on mandolin and Jesse Withers, bass.

Continued on B-2



Close harmony from the Bluegrass Intentions: Suzy Thompson, left, Bill Evans and Alan Senauke.
Photo by George Martin

San Francisco Bluegrass and Old-Time Festival

Continued from B-1

The band ranged over multiple genres, doing a jazzy version of "Sugarfoot Rag," then back to bluegrass tradition for "Blue and Lonesome." They did a nice original, "Spring on the Hill," a Skip Gorman tune, "Jaybird Died With the Whooping Cough," another Jimmie Rodgers blue yodel, and a nice traditional gospel number, "Working on a Building." The band wound up with a hot lead-swapping session on "Beaumont Rag," considerably faster than Bob Wills ever did it.

Mandolin virtuoso and Ukiah native John Reischman was once a member of the Good Old Persons and lived in the Bay Area. Now he's from Vancouver, Canada, and accompanied by ace guitarist Jim Nunally, Greg Spatz, an often astonishing fiddler; Vancouver banjo picker Nick Hornbuckle, and (because his bass player had an immigration problem getting in from Canada) a local jazz bassist, Cindy Browne. Browne did an excellent job on a lot of unfamiliar, jazzy material. "I had some chord sheets," she said after the show, "and they gave me some CDs I've been listening to for the past two days."

The band opened with a pair of Reischman originals, "Nesser," and "Indian Firefly." Reischman's tunes are strong with melody, in contrast to some pickers who put down a chord structure and then just run scales and riffs around it.

Reischman's absent bass player is a big vocal part of his band, and to replace her singing

John was able to draft his old bandmate Kathy Kallick. The two blended voices nicely on "A Little Bird Told Me," a Gillian Welch, David Rawlings song, and Kathy also sang with Nunally, belting out "Hold What You Got," made famous by Jimmy Martin. For a solo turn, Kathy sang the Bill Monroe tune, "Blue Night," and later in the show joined Reischman to sing the old Blue Sky Boys "Katy Dear," their version of the classic sad song about Willie and Katy and their doomed love. (Katy's mama and papa both have silver daggers "to kill the one that I love best.")

Hornbuckle contributed a pretty, medium-tempo banjo tune in G-minor called "Poisoning the Well," and combined with Spatz in a nice fiddle-banjo duet, an old fiddle tune, "Booth Shot Lincoln."

When the Jaybirds aren't performing Reischman originals, they stick with pretty classic stuff, like Flatt & Scruggs' "Down the Road" or turn Spatz loose on old-timey fiddle tune medleys like "Prairie Girl/Sally in the Garden With a Hog-Eyed Man."

I was not able to attend any other SFBOT performances this year, due to a new job and work schedule. I heard that the Friday night Peter Rowan, Crooked Jades show with Rayna Gellert and Frank Lee (two-thirds of the Freighthoppers) was a sellout, or nearly so, at the Noe Valley Ministry. Ralph Stanley sold out the Freight & Salvage and the Laurel Canyon Ramblers show at



The Bluegrass Intentions played an infectious set of traditional bluegrass spiced with some country and even a Cajun waltz. From left, Eric Thompson, Larry Cohea, Suzy Thompson, Bill Evans and Alan Senauke.
Photo by George Martin



(Above): John Reischman, center, with the Jaybirds, from left, Greg Spatz, Nick Hornbuckle, and Jim Nunally.

Photo by George Martin

Sweetwater was also sold out.

The group that organized the festival put months of work into it and gave bluegrass and old time music an enormous boost in San Francisco. They included Lisa Berman, Jeff Kazor and Tom Lucas of the Crooked Jades, Barbara Hansen of stringbean and All Wrecked Up, Matt Knoth and

Chris Ereneta of All Wrecked Up, Larry Carlin of Keystone Crossing, Clark Tate and Jeff Westbrook. The Northern California Bluegrass Society was the event's sponsor, with Mike Hall as head cheerleader.

Congratulations to all for a job well done.





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- Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, San Francisco, CA, (415) 885-0750.
- Henflings Tavern, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, CA. For information or tickets, call 831-335-1642 or e-mail: henfling@cruzio.com. Henflings is hosting an International Folk Series, an ongoing

- series of roots and traditional music from anywhere in the world. April 11 — Eddie and Martha Adcock;
- International Music Hall and Bistro, 120 East Main Street, Grass Valley, CA. Phone 530-477-2664 or for more information and a playbill, web site at: <http://www.musichallistro.com>. April 15 — Eddie and Martha Adcock, 3 p.m.
- The Kensington Circus Pub 389 Colusa Ave., Kensington, CA; (925) 524-8814.
- La Di Da Cafe & Gallery, Kelly and Purissima, Half Moon Bay, CA (415) 726-1779.
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- 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 in-

formation, 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. and the David Thom Band performs on the 4th Sunday each month. For further information call 707-935-0660

ore-mail: murphy@vom.com.

- Musician's Coffeehouse, Mt. Diablo Unitarian-Universal Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA. For information call (510) 229-2710.
- The Neighborhood Church, in Pasadena, California. For information, call (818) 303-7014.
- 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; e-mail: palms@yolo.com or visit the website at: <http://palmsplayhouse.com>. March 3 — Golden Bough (Acoustic Celtic Music Trio), 8 p.m.; March 11 — Robin and Linda Williams and their fine group, 7:30 p.m.; April 15 — Ray Wylie Hubbard;
- Paradise Found, 525 5th Street, between Mendocino Ave. and

Continued on B-6



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STUDIO INSIDER

by Joe Weed

Welcome to March! It used to be that March 17 St. Patty's day gigs marked the beginning of gig season — and a fun beginning at that. But now, with all the winter festivals, lots of bands keep busy year 'round. So instead of everybody trying to have their recording projects finished by early spring, groups spread their work out over the year, knowing that whenever they (finish, there will be gigs to sell CD's.

I'm writing this column on my laptop. As for the creative ambiance, I'm surrounded by the screech of tires and the roar of engines at a mini-race car and go cart track. My 15-year-old son has convinced me to bring him and a friend here to "unwind" after their stressful job interviews to be counselors at boy scout camp this summer. As the two of them careen around the track, my mind zooms back to my own adolescence and my first out-of-home employment at none other than Kentucky Fried Chicken. Once I'd received enough hot oil burns and taken stock of the future opportunities offered by that line of work, I high-tailed it to a music store which was advertis-

ing for a guitar teacher. I'm not sure that I picked the right industry for pay, benefits and job security, but all in all it's hard to complain about how things have turned out.

Last night I enjoyed a great house concert featuring one of Hawaii's best living slack key guitar players, Ledward Kaapana. The place was packed, SRO. Ledward began his show by singing a beautiful Hawaiian song with guitar accompaniment. Then he launched into a spectacular guitar piece in an open tuning....spectacular, except that something in the small PA he was using was distorting. Seeming not to notice, he segued into another vocal piece, with the guitar distorting even more noticeably. Then he interrupted the piece, stopped playing, and said, "Something is wrong here."

Many in the audience were audiophiles, or at the very least music aficionados, so soon the comments started coming, at first tentative and then more and more insistent: "Something in the guitar is breaking up!" "It's clipping!" "There's distortion." "It just doesn't sound right."

Ledward, unfamiliar with the PA and things technical, didn't know what to do. Somebody who had seen that I was there in the back row, called out, "Where's Joe? Get Joe Weed!" Normally in a situation like this, I try to remain as inconspicuous as possible. Of course I'm glad to help when I can, but usually there are people who know the particular PA better than I do. And the time it takes to properly trouble-shoot a system and get to the root of a problem can take longer than the audience or the performer wants to wait. The fix usually involves crawling around getting your pants and your hands dirty, and dealing with squeals of feedback. And then, if it still isn't fixed, your name rides on it anyway!!

But these were friends of mine, and I figured I could probably get things working for Ledward without too much difficulty. The hardest part was going to be getting past those sixty people to the front, where the PA was, next to Ledward and his four or five (priceless) guitars and ukuleles. A tight fit, even for a wiry guy like me!

Recommendations to save the ear drums

The first thing I did is something I recommend to anybody who is trying to troubleshoot a PA system problem. Turn the volume down very low, so that if an uncooperative connection or amp is suddenly made to operate properly, the resulting flow of electrons won't turn into a blazing, ear and eyeball shattering cacophony of feedback, clicks, thumps and roars.

The hard way

At a recent concert at San Jose's Espresso Garden Cafe, I was in the audience with some friends, when just as the band was about to start, some of the microphones wouldn't work. I saw the soundman, with a panicked look on his face, pushing fader after fader and tracing wires from place to place. Recognizing that we were probably in for a blast of high energy feedback and deafening thumps when he realized that he needed to turn on his PA's phantom power, I covered my ears and advised the people at our table to do the same. Soon it happened. He realized that some of the mics he was using were condenser mics and needed to have the phantom power applied to make them operate. He flipped on the phantom power, not remembering that he had just turned all the mics up to their max, trying to get them to work. In about a second and a half, the phantom got the mics powered up. With their faders at the max position, the microphones chimed in with a deafening, piercing feedback loop. I thought the plate glass windows were going to break. My fillings rattled. He brought the faders back down, very quickly; I think he embossed their outlines in his palms. When the room had recovered, the artist, Sarah Elizabeth Campbell, made the best of the situation with a funny off-color remark. But none of that would have happened if he'd begun his troubleshooting by turning the volume down to a low level instead of up.

We can still hear

In Ledward's case, I remembered that the type of distortion we were hearing (often called "clipping," because when it's dis-



played on an oscilloscope, the peaks of the sound waves are clipped off) is often caused by an out-of-balance gain structure. In lay terms, that usually means that when thing A is plugged into thing B, thing A is too hot a signal for thing B to work with cleanly. Thing A is too loud, and it overdrives thing B. It's like trying to blow off a spoonful of hot soup with the air compressor at a gas station.

Overkill. Pad, sweet Pad

So I looked carefully at the PA system. Ledward's guitar was plugged directly into channel one of the PA head, with nothing in between. It seemed quite likely that the output level of his guitar pick-up was too hot for the microphone preamp in the PA. It was making the mic preamp distort. Fortunately, there was a switch labeled "pad" right next to the input jack for channel one. A "pad" is a circuit in a sound system which turns something down. A "pad" can be either a switch, with a fixed amount of gain reduction, or a "pot," which means a volume-control type of knob with variable amounts of gain reduction. In this case, the pad was a switch. I engaged the switch, which turned down the level of his guitar greatly. Then, after turning down the other channels' faders, we were able to get a decent sound from his guitar by finding a good balance between his guitar channel's fader and the master fader for the PA. The next step was to (slowly!!) bring up the volume of his vocal mic fader until it gave his vocal mic the level he needed.

This problem, fortunately, was easy to fix, and didn't delay the show by more than a few minutes. PA systems can get quite complicated, however, especially when the number of elements connected to them increases. Whenever possible, try for as re-

More on facing page

Where to find live acoustic music

Continued from B-5

- B Streets in downtown Santa Rosa, CA. The Dan Hurlbutt Gospel Bluegrass Band performs at 7:30 p.m. on the last Saturday each month. For information, call 707-829-9170.
- 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 or visit the website at: <http://www.samsbbq.com>. Every Tuesday 6-9 p.m. music from

- the 20's, 30's and 40's by Moonglow (Beth McNamara and Jerry Ashford). Sidesaddle & Co. performs on 1st and 2nd Wednesdays; Diana and the Yes Ma'ams perform every 3rd Wednesday; and Mr. Banjo and the Lonesome Wailers plays on the 4th Wednesday — all 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): Circle R Boys perform.
- 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.

- Sweetwater, 153 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, CA. For information, call (415) 388-2820. March 20 — Bluegrass Gold with Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum;
- Waves Smokehouse and Saloon, 65 Post Street, San Jose, CA 95113; phone 408-885-9283. Bluegrass Open Mic on 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 Band every Thursday night, 6:30-10 p.m.

Will the True Version Please Stand Up

By Elena Corey

There is a children's game that has been around a long time which is quite instructive, even though it is primarily entertaining. It used to be called "gossip". Now it's called "broken telephone" or "Chinese whispers". It goes like this: one person whispers a phrase into the ear of another, who whispers what he hears to the next person, and so on, to the last person. Distortions accumulate and when the last person announces what he has heard, it is usually the occasion for much mirth. The final message seldom resembles the original at all.

The game is successful because each hearer does not merely reproduce the simple sounds he heard — which may be unintelligible — he re-analyzes the sounds and renders them into a creative guess about what was meant. He assumes there was a sensible message to start with, and not merely an interesting collection of sounds. He makes leaps of intuition to form meaningful connections among the sounds

We're used to that and most of us accept the implicit irony quite equably. Just as language changes over time, so does our music — even without outside influences — of which there are several. But we attribute sense or at least sensibility to both our perception of previous music and to our current creations.

Just as language is not supposed to be an impediment to communicating thoughts, our musical offerings, versions, renditions, derivative interpretations and re-creations of past music are not supposed to impede our understanding the original intent of the music. Within the broad parameters of a given tradition, there is plenty of room for interpretation and variation. When Marc O'Conner plays "Sally Goodin", for instance, the basic tune should be recognizable at some point in the piece as the same one all the wonderful old men at Galax play. Hmm. All the fiddlers at Galax don't play the same tune when they're asked to play "Sally Goodin".

Um hmm. Exactly. But you can recognize the tune. Therein may lie seeds for more creativity.

Children's innocence sometimes provides us with marvel-

ous insights. For instance, one of my sons (at age 3 on South Padre Island, TX) miscalled a jellyfish a "jello umbrella" providing new understanding for me of how he saw his world. Just so the fresh perceptions and renderings

of traditional music may sometimes result in happy musical surprises and marvelous "Aha" experiences for listeners and fellow musicians alike. To modern ears, the traditional chord change from A to G in the second seg-

ment of "Old Joe Clark", for instance, may seem too telegraphed and simplistic. In modern renditions, we may hear additional chords inserted or very occasionally such diversions as a two-octave lower bass playing the

melody in the place of accompaniment tonic and dominant tones. Sometimes these variations and fresh approaches break out additional "fire" and energy from the tune and present the

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Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Camps

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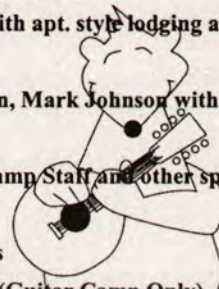
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True Version

Continued from B-3

tune to us with freshness and illuminate the performer's style. We have the opportunity to perceive the "simpatico" feeling of empathy the modern rendition shows to the original and consider their similarities after the piece is over.

The slow imperceptible change over time can remind us of some fiddle players too. You know how it is, traveling from one spot to another, a busy fiddler may forget names with which to tag a tune or the exact intricacies of tunes, so a lot of unintentional revision happens in the name of folk process. Sometimes we get three separate tunes named one thing and another time, several names emerge for the same tune.

The "gossip" phenomenon is apparent in other examples. Perhaps you hear a driving Bluegrass Turk / Testosterone group cover one of your favorite bluegrass standard ballads, and the pumped-up song is hardly recognizable. You wonder if they really understand the point of a ballad. Then maybe you'll hear a relaxed and dreamy rendition of a tune you always thought needed to be played in a sprightly, almost hip-hop style.

The jarring sense that what you are hearing doesn't match what your mind has stored for the matching sound of that song doesn't have to end there, of course. You can consider a few questions such as: Is the new version well done? Is it creative? Does it communicate anything to you that you think the original composer might have intended? Does it carry the message a bit further? Can the basic chord structure of the original shine through the revised and newly lacquered rendition?

If enough people love the new version, that becomes the new "standard" which then serves as a springboard or platform for further exploration. And then along will come a performer with a strong retrospective penchant and deliver his own rendition which sounds eerily like an echo of a far earlier one.

So sometimes if the message gets twisted stretched or warped out of shape, we can enjoy the humor of the incongruity. But if the original message was timeless and important, you can be sure that it will be uttered again.



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.
- Buckhorn Saloon, 2 Main St., Winters, CA; phone (530) 795-4503. Every other Friday: California Special (Bluegrass & Old Time Country) 7:30-10:30pm.

- Cold Spring Tavern, Stagecoach Road (just off State Highway 154) 15 minutes from either Santa Barbara or Santa Ynez, CA. For information or directions, call (805) 967-0066. The Cache Valley Drifters perform every Wednesday from 7 - 10 p.m.
- Cuppa Joe's, 194 Castro St., Mountain View, CA. For more information, call 650-967-2294. Bluegrass jam session every Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- Espresso Garden, 814 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA.

Bluegrass and other acoustic music performances. For 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. March 10 - Grass Roots bluegrass band house

concert; March 17 - Kathy Kallick Band concert at the United Methodist Church, 5266 H Street, Sacramento, CA (see ad on facing page 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 web site at: www.the.freight.org. March 4 - the Burns Sisters; March 9 - Robin

Sally Ann

Key of G

Arr. by Steve Kaufman

Numbers are fingerings Left Hand

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 Cruet (925)672-3242 or Lynn Quinones (925) 229-0365.
- **All Wrecked Up** — bluegrass, old-time, honkytonk. 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. Mem-

bers play guitar, mandolin, bass, banjo and Dobro. Contact 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.
- **Mr. Banjo and the Lonesome Wailers** — for information or bookings, write to P.O. Box 124, Boulder Creek, Ca 95006; phone 831-338-0634; e-mail: Mrbanjo99@aol.com or website: <http://members.aol.com/mrbanjo99>. Performing the last Friday of each month at the new Trout Farm Inn at 7701 E. Zayante Road in Felton, CA.
- **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.
- **Bear Ridge Bluegrass Band** — playing only "hard driving, soulful Bluegrass music, no 20 minute chromatic Banjo breaks played here". Crazy Pat Conway on Mandolin & Guitar, Navi Grebnesor on Dobro & Banjo, Jeff Webb on Bass. The Stanley Brothers, Larry Sparks, Kane River, New Vintage, Rob Ikes, Ron Block, Chris Jones, and Dan Taminski are our idols. We play off road gigs cheap! For bookings for information, write to PO Box 44135 Lemon Cove, Ca 93244; phone (559) 592 6389; e-mail: pat@camprude.com; web site: www.camprude.com.
- **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>.

ment, 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.
- **The Bluegrass Redliners** — for information or bookings, contact Dolly Mae Bradshaw, 425 Park Ave., Yorba Linda CA 92866.
- **Blue to the Bone** — for information or bookings, contact JoAnne Martin, 3612 Tomahawk Ln., San Diego, 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: bdsjmillar@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).
- **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.
- **Carolina Special** — Traditional Bluegrass Music. For information or bookings, call (530) 400-3872 or visit their web site

at: <http://www.geocities.com/matthewdudman/CarolinaSpecial.html>

- **Cedar Grove Bluegrass Band** — for information or bookings, contact Don Gerber at 760-247-6768 or e-mail: GERBERGRAS@aol.com.
- **The Cherryholmes Family** — "Spirit High Ridge" plays traditional bluegrass, mountain and gospel music. For information and bookings, call Jere or Sandy at 323-773-2881. For a complete schedule, visit: http://s-w-b-a.com/bands/spirit_high_ridge.htm. March 31-April 1 — Rawhide Bluegrass Festival, Scottsdale, AZ; May 11-13 — Camp Rude Bluegrass Festival, Parkfield, CA; June 15-17 — Huck Finn Jubilee, Victorville, CA.
- **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 band performs the third Sunday each month from 2-5 p.m. at the San Gregorio Store on the corner of Hwy. 84 and Stage Road in San Gregorio, CA.
- **The Circuit Riders of the Western Territory** — Western Bluegrass Gospel. For information or bookings, contact A.R. Danes, P.O. Box 1801, Susanville, CA 96130, 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.

- **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.
- **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. April 8th — Fresno Historical Stocity Concert in Fresno, CA; April 28 — at the University of

Continued on B-8

STUDIO INSIDER

Continued from B-6

alistic a sound check as you can get, prior to the performance. Unforeseen things can still happen, and probably will. But if you remember your basics, proceed calmly and methodically with your trouble shooting, and keep the PA turned down low until all is fixed, you'll have the best chance at getting up and running smoothly and quickly, and with no one's ears damaged.

Joe Weed records acoustic music at his Highland Studio in Los Gatos, California. He has released six 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 e-mail at joe@highlandpublishing.com.

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 B-7

- Humboldt Music Festival at University in Humboldt, CA; June 14 — 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.Www.doodoowah.com.
- Earthquake Country — Bluegrass all the way! For information or bookings, call Paul at (408) 366-1653 or Mark (408) 244-8068. The band performs the first Sunday each month from 2-5 p.m. at the San Gregorio Store on the corner of Hwy. 84 and Stage Road in San Gregorio, CA.
- 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. June 11-13 — Bluegrass Banjo instruction at the CBA Music Camp, Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, CA; July 28 & 29 — Willow Creek Bluegrass Festival in North Fork, California;
- Foothillbillies — old time string band music and other rural favorites. For information and bookings, call (209) 245-4534

or (209) 296-2601.

- 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@1020103276.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.
- 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; website: Grassroots4@excite.com; or e-mail: grassrootsbluegrassband@yahoo.com. March 10 — Fifth String Music Store at 7 p.m., 930 Alhambra St., Sacramento, CA; April (TBA) — Borders Bookstore, 2765 East Bidwell St., in Folsom, CA. Call for date and time 916-784-5900.
- 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-



Winter YEOW!

Chasing away the winter-time blues... (above) Cactus Bob Cole, Sourdough Slim Crowder, Blackwood Tom and Prairie Flower (Chris Stephenson) are shown on stage at one of their January YEOW! performances.

Doodoo Wah (left) -- Ron DeLacy sings one of his original tunes as Dave Cavanagh backs him up on the mandolin at a YEOW! performance.

Photos by Howard Gold

- 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.
- 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 book-

- ing 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 Cruely (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; ore-mail: bgsignal@worldnet.att.net. March 17 -- 5th String Music Store Concert at the

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

- United Methodist Church, 5266 H Street, Sacramento. (see ad on page B-5 for more information); June 11-13 — Kathy will be the Bluegrass Vocal instructor at the CBA Music Camp, Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, CA;
- **Keystone Crossing** — Larry Carlin and Claudia Hampe sing songs of the brother duos. For bookings call Carlton Music at (415) 332-8498 or go to <http://www.carltonmusic.com/kc.html>.
- **Laurel Canyon Ramblers** — for information or bookings, call Herb Pedersen 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. March 9 - Concert at the Cactus Cafe in Austin, TX; March 10 - Cain Center in Athens, TX; March 11 — McKinney High School in McKinney, TX; March 13 — Borger Senior High School in Borger, TX; March 20 — Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum at the Sweetwater in Mill Valley, CA;
- **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 Annual 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.

- **LeRoy Mack** — Bluegrass Gospel performances and Dobro workshops. Rebel Recording artist and former member of the Kentucky Colonels. For information or bookings, call 818-768-2332 or website: www.leroymack.com. June 14-17 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley, CA. Dobro workshops and Sunday Chapel service.
- **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. March 9 - CBA Brother Duet Concert at the Davis Art Center, 1919 F Street in Davis, CA. (see Ad on page A-5 for details/tickets).
- **Modern Hicks** — contemporary Bluegrass. For booking or information, call 707-544-6909. Mar. 10th - New College, 99 6th St Santa Rosa 707-568-01122 KRCB radio Freight Train Boogie; April 21st - The Rose, 2074 Armory Drive Santa Rosa CA 707-546-7673; June 3rd - Rancho Nicasio, On the Nicasio Town Square. 4-6pm 415- 662-2219; June 14th - California Bluegrass Association - Fathers Day Bluegrass Festival, Grass Valley
- **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; or e-mail: dbianchi@nccn.net.
- **Pacific Crest** — for information and bookings, call Craig Wilson at 661-872-3778 or e-mail: craigw@ncinternet.net. March 9 - & 23 - Black Forest German Restaurant in Bakersfield, CA; June 14 — CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; June 15-16 — Huck Finn Jubilee, Victorville,

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.



Carolina Special has reformed after over a decade absence from the scene to play some top quality authentic traditional bluegrass- Carolina style. Band founder and native North Carolinian John Murphy (lead vocals and guitar) was inspired by newcomer Matt Dudman (tenor vocals and mandolin) to re-form this great band that at one time or another included notable members such as Sandy Rothman, Ed Neff, Jack Lieberman and Paul Shelasky. Rounding out the band are Mark Hogan (banjo), John Duncan (bass), and Kevin Bennett (fiddle).

Based out of Vallejo, CA, the new Carolina Special has already played select several select engagements in Northern California. They have a pretty hot demo recording out and are ready to take the world by storm (again)! If you enjoy top drawer, authentic traditional bluegrass music, you really NEED to check this band out.

Also check out their website at www.geocities.com/matthewdudman/CarolinaSpecial.html or call (530) 400-3872.

- **Sierra Mountain Bluegrass** — contact Jesse Askins, 6023 Wright Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93308, phone (805) 393-1293.
- **Sierra Ramblers** — American "Roots" music, Cowboy songs, Carter Family, Delmore Brothers, Jimmie Rodgers plus originals. For bookings, call 408-937-1319 or visit the website at www.sierraramblers.com.
- **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.
- **Spikedrivers** — "100% all-naturalgnugrass". 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 tradi-

Continued on B-10

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

Continued from B-9

tional 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.

• Ron Stanley — for booking or information, write to P.O. Box 222, Westlake, OR 97493 or phone 541-997-3685.

• 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. July 28 & 29 — Willow Creek Bluegrass Festival in North Fork, California;

• Virtual Strangers — (bluegrass) for information or bookings, call Jon Cherry at (619) 659-3699 or Mike Tatar at (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>.

• 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; website: <http://www.lanset.com/fiddlebug/>.

• Wild Blue — Bluegrass trio featuring Elmo Shropshire on banjo. For bookings call Carlone Music at (415) 332-8498 or go to <http://www.carlone.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 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; or visit their web site at: www.eddieandmarthaadcock.com. (See page A-8 for a complete list of their April California tour).

• 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.

• 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. April 6 - 8 — Mesquite Springtime Bluegrass Music Festival, Eureka Mesquite Hotel and Casino, Mesquite, Nevada.

• 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.chapell.com; web site: www.daleann.com.

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

• 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. April 6 - 8 — Mesquite Springtime Bluegrass Music Festival, Eureka Mesquite Hotel and Casino, Mesquite, Nevada; June 14 & 15 — CBA's 26th Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival, 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>.

• Illrd 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 con-

tact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. . June 15 — Huck Finn Jubilee, Mojave Narrows National Park, Victorville, CA; 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 14 & 15 — 26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival at the Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA; June 16 & 17 — Huck Finn Festival in Victorville, 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.

UPCOMING BLUEGRASS, OLD TIME & GOSPEL MUSIC EVENTS

call 818-382-4819; e-mail: info@topangabanjofiddle.org; or website: <http://www.topangabangofiddle.org>.

this issue. For more information, call Ingrid Noyes at 707-878-2415.



• May 24-28 — **Strawberry Spring Music Festival** at Camp Mather, near Yosemite, CA. Featuring: Seldom Scene, Nickel Creek, Kathy Mattea, the Waybacks, Willis Alan Ramsey, Marcia Ball, SONIA dada; Ulai and more to be announced. Tickets are now on sale. For information or ticket orders by phone, call 209-533-0191 or visit their website at www.strawberry-music.com.

JUNE

- June 1-3 — **Wild Iris Folk Festival** at the Mendocino Country Fairgrounds in Boonville, CA. Workshops, open mikes, jamming, camping, kids' activities. Call 707-895-3439 or see website at: <http://www.boont.com/wildiris/> for more information.
- 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 11-13 — **CBA Music Camp** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Three days of intensive instruction, camping, jams, nightly concerts, and more. Instructors are: Bill Evans - bluegrass banjo; Kathy Kallick - vocals; Jim Nunally - guitar; John Reischman - mandolin; Markie Sanders - bass; Jack Tuttle - fiddle; Sally Van Meter - dobro and Old-time banjo - tba. Registration form on page A-11 of

- June 14-17 — **26th Annual CBA Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Line-up includes: Longview, Lynn Morris Band, Lonesome River Band, Seldom Scene, James King Band, Kathy Kallick and a Good Ol' Persons reunion, Ron Spears and Within Tradition, 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, Kids on Bluegrass 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 or see the ad and ticket order form on page A-13.
- June 15 - 17 — **25th Annual Huck Finn Jubilee** at Mojave Narrows Regional Park in Victorville, CA. Line-up includes: Seldom Scene, Lonesome River Band, the Hat Band, Pacific Crest, Blue Highway, Lynn Morris Band, Nickel Creek, Lost Highway, Spirit High Ridge, Julie Wingfield, Down the Road, Wayne Rice, Lighthouse, the Grasshoppers and Chaparral. For information, call Don V. Tucker at 909-780-8810 or visit the website at: <http://huckfinn.com>.
- June 15-17 — **Live Oak Music Festival**, Santa Barbara, CA. Bands include: The Waybacks, Chris Hillman Quartet, Guy Davis, Janis Ian, Cyrus Clarke, Jay Under & Mollie Mason, Colcannon, Rosie Ladet, Ricardo Lemvo and others. For information, call 895-781-3030 or visit the website at: <http://www.kcbx.org/liveoak/>.
- June 18 - 23 — **National**

Oldtime Fiddlers' Convention and Festival in Weiser, ID. For information, call 1-800-437-1280.

• June 29 - July 1 — **Kate Wolf Memorial Festival** at Laytonville, CA. Bands include: Stacey Earle, Utah Phillips and Mark Ross, Cache Valley Drifters, Lucy Kaplansky w/Nina Gerber, John McCurtcheon, Chris Hillman & Herb Pedersen, Arlo Guthrie, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Nina Gerber Gand, Iris Dement, Rosalie Sorrels and more. Call 707-829-7067, 800-OWL-2060; or website at: <http://www.katewolf.com/festival/>.



JULY

- July 5-8 — **High Sierra Music Festival** at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds in Quincy, CA. Band include: Bands include: Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, Karl Denison's Tiny University, Yonder Mountain String Band, Jazz Mandolin Project w/the Laura Love Band, Blueground Undergrass and more. For information call 510-420-1529 or website: www.hsmusic.net/.
- July 12-15 — **California World Music Festival** at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Line-up includes: Alisdair Fraser and many more. For information, call 530-891-4098 or website: www.californiafestival.com/.
- July 13 - 15 — **8th Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass** 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 discount tickets now on sale. For information, call (408) 353-1762 or e-mail: pennyg44

@gte.net.

- July 21 & 22 — **2nd Annual OpryFest Bluegrass Jambo-ree** in Opry Plaza, Nashville, TN. Great line-up of bluegrass bands, food and beverage concessions, children's activities and strolling entertainment. Tickets are \$35 adults or \$25 children (4-14) for both days plus Grand Ole Opry tickets and other options are available. For more information or tickets, Phone 615-871-5047 or visit the website at: www.opry.com.
- July 28 — **Bowers Mansion Bluegrass Festival** at the Historic Bowers Mansion between Reno and Carson City, NV. Sponsored by the Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association. More information in future issues.
- July 28 & 29 — **Willow Creek Bluegrass Festival** in North Fork, California, located between Fresno, and Yosemite. There will be swimming in the creek, camping included in weekend admission, RV's are ok but there are no hookups. The site has huge Ponderosa pine trees, cedar, and oaks, and a beautiful creek, with fishing. Bands include: the David Thom Band, Dalisay (the state junior fiddle champion) with Ed Bell; Bill Evans, String Bandits, Reno and Sheila McCormick, the Procks and more to be announced. Admission is \$10 per day and tickets will be available at the gate only. The festival is sponsored by Mike Knapp and Reno's Music Shop of Oakhurst, CA. For further information, call Mike Knapp at 559-877-3474 or e-mail: Knapptcf@sierratel.com. You can also call Reno's Music Shop at 559-683-2424.
- July 29-August 3 — **Dance and Bluegrass Week** at the Augusta Heritage Center on the Davis and Elkins College Campus in Elkins, WV. For information, write to: Augusta Heritage Center, Davis & Elkins College, 100 Campus Drive, Elkins, WV 26241; phone: 304-637-1209; e-mail: augusta@augustaheritage.com; or visit the web site at: www.augustaheritage.com.

AUGUST

- August 17-19 — **CBA's NEW Summer Family Campout** at the Lake Francis RV Resort, 13919 Lake Francis Road in Dobbins, CA. Site has full hookups for RVs, plenty of tent camping, cabins for rent, as well as a lake, swimming pool, hiking, lots of jamming space, showers and more. Terry Ingraham will be heading a program of children's activities for the weekend. There is a restaurant on site for those who don't want to cook. Camping will be \$18 per night per unit for RVs and \$15 per night per unit for tents. There are a limited number of rustic family cabins (sleeping bags are suggested) through the resort call for reservations and prices. For camping or cabin reservations, call 1-888-993-7344 or web: <http://lakefrancisrv.com>. For more information, call CBA Activities Vice President, Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or e-mail: sacbluegrass@yahoo.com.
- August 24-26 — **Oregon State Bluegrass Festival** at River Bend Park in Winston, OR. More details in future issues.



- August 30 - September 3 — **Strawberry Fall Music Festival** at Camp Mather near Yosemite, CA. Band include: Tarbox Ramblers, Mary Gauthier, Ryan Shupe and Rubberband, Mary Black, Hot Club of Cowtown, Alejandro Escovedo and more to be announced. Tickets are now on sale. For information or ticket orders by phone, call 209-533-0191 or visit their website at www.strawberrymusic.com.

SEPTEMBER

- September 13 -15 — **2nd Annual Arbuckle Mountain Bluegrass Festival** at the Blue-

Continued on B-14

Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Some Music?

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

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

- **Livermore** - Bluegrass Jam Session 4th Saturday of the month 7:00 - 9 PM. Unitarian Church 1893 Vasco Rd. Take Vasco Exit from I-580 head North on Vasco. For information, con-

tact Bill O'Neal 925-373-6280.

- **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



- **Napa** - "Bluegrass and Fiddle Jam Session every Thursday night from 7:30pm to 10:30pm in Napa. Call Jerry at (707) 226-3084."
- **Orangevale** - Weekly Bluegrass jams, Wednesday from 7-10:30 p.m. at Serve Our Seniors, 9281 Oak Ave. at Telegraph Ave. in Orangevale, CA. For further information, call

further information, call Sacramento Area Activities Vice President Bob Thomas at (916) 989-0993.

- **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.
- **Sonoma** - Bluegrass jam session the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7 to 10:30 p.m. The music host will be Tom Sours. Murphy's Irish Pub is located at 464 First Street East in Sonoma, California. For further information, call 707-935-0660 or e-mail: murphy@vom.com.
- **Williams** - VFW Hall, Corner of 9th & C Streets, 3rd Sunday 1-5 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 California State Old Time Fiddlers Jam to Bella Vista School Multipurpose room the 1st Sunday of each month 1-4PM. Bella Vista is a small town near Redding, California. Call 530-223-6618 for further information.
- **Bellflower** - The Southern California Old-Time Fiddlers hold jam sessions the second and fourth Sundays at the Masonic Lodge, 9813 E. Beach Street, Bellflower, CA. Contact Mel Durham (562) 867-9224 for more information.
- **Castro Valley** - United Methodist Church at 19806 Wisteria Avenue in Castro Valley, California, 4th Sunday of every month from 1:30 to 5 p.m. For further information or directions, please call Suzanne Klein at (510) 527-2538.
- **El Cajon** - Wells Park Center, 1153 Madison, El Cajon, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Omer Green at (619) 748-3493 for details.
- **Fresno** - Senior Citizen's Village Community Room, 1917 S. Chestnut Ave., every Saturday Dance, 7:30-11:00 p.m. Call Margarette Smith at (209) 924-2034 for details.
- **Lakewood** - Masonic Hall, 5918 Parkcrest St. in Lakewood, CA, 1st Sunday from 1-4 p.m. For information, call (562) 425-9123.
- **Merced** - Colony Grange Hall, 2277 Child's Avenue, Merced, CA. 2nd Saturday 7-11 p.m. For information, call Omie Lancaster at (209) 291-4875.
- **Oak View** - Oak View 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** - Rasmussen Senior Citizen's Center, 115 E. Roberts Lane in Oildale, CA. 2nd and 4th Sunday, 1:30 - 4:30

p.m. Call Doyn Simpson (805) 833-2594 for details.

- **Orangevale** - Orangevale Grange Hall, 5807 Walnut Avenue, 2nd Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For information, call Richard Hult, 209-745-2232, or Joyce Reed, 916-332-5395.
- **Oroville** - 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** - New School, Red Bluff Drive, 1st Sunday 1-5 p.m. Call Bob Burger at (916) 549-4524 for further information.
- **Williams** - Veteran's Memorial Hall, 9th & C St., Williams, CA. 3rd Sunday 1-5 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.
- **Canoga Park** - Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor, 20246 Saticoy, Canoga Park. Instruments, repair and set-up, Cds, tapes and records, books and videos, accessories. Lessons on fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo and more. Jam session every other Saturday. Pick until you drop! Slow jam 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; open jam after that. For more information, call 818-700-8288.
- **Laguna Niguel** - Acoustic Jam session 4th Friday of every month from 7-11 p.m. at Shade Tree Stringed Instruments, 28062-D Forbes Rd., Laguna Niguel, CA. For information, call 714-364-5270.
- **Mariposa** - Cousin Jack Pickin' Popcorn Music Jam at Cousin Jack's Store, 5026 Hwy 140, Mariposa, California. 1st Saturday of each month from 6 to 10 p.m. For further information, please call (209) 966-6271.
- **Mountain View** - Bluegrass

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Continued from B-13
grass 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.

• **September 13 - 16 - 30th Walnut Valley Festival** in Winfield, Kansas. For information or advance tickets, write to the Walnut Valley Association, Inc., 918 Main, P.O. Box 245; Winfield, KS 67156 or phone 316-221-3250.

- **September 28 - 30 - Desert Oasis Festival** at the fairgrounds in Fallon, Nevada. Sponsored by the Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association. More information in future issues.

OCTOBER

- **October 12 - 14 - 12th Annual Logandale Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival** at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Logandale, NV. Sponsored by the Southern Nevada Bluegrass Music Society, the Mospa Valley Chamber of Commerce and KUNV 91.5 Radio. Vendors are now sought. For information, call 702-564-3320 and ask for Al.

BANDS AND UPCOMING GIGS

- No Strings Attached, "Bluegrass with a Twist". For bookings or information, contact Kathy Boyd at (503) 656-4462 or Judy Arter at (503) 632-4616. Check out their Web Site at <http://www.SwiftSite.com/nostingsattached>. July 13-15 — Prospect Bluegrass Festival in Oregon;
- 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. May 18 — Concert at Montalvo Center for the Arts in Saratoga, CA; June 22 & 23 — Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Telluride, CO; July 23 & 24 — Rocky Grass, Lyons, CO;
- Sam Hill, for information and bookings, contact Doug Sammons at 503-647-2350; or E-mail: boograss@teleport.com. March 3 — North Shore Bar in Bingen, WA (across the Columbia River from Hood River); March 24 — CD Release Party!!! at the Hollywood Theater 4122 NE Sandy Blvd. in Portland, OR.
- Seldom Scene, for information and bookings contact Keith Case and Associates, (615) 327-4646; (615) 327-4949 FAX. June 15 — Huck Finn Jubilee, Mojave Narrows National Park, Victorville, CA; 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@world.std.com.

May 18 — Fresno, CA Concert for the Fresno Folklore Society. (7:30 pm) 209-456-0453. Call for location;

- 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.

Jan. 20th CBA Gospel Concert in Fair Oaks



The Reunion Quartet (left), opened the 2nd Annual CBA Gospel Concert on Jan. 20 at the First Baptist Church in Fair Oaks, California. Quartet members are Jack Pless, Ken Fraley, Greg Patton and Dan Sanchez.

The concert was supported by the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association.

Dry Branch Fire Squad is pictured below with Ron Thomason telling one of his stories. Other members of the band are Mary Jo Leet, Charlie Leet, Adam McIntosh and Danny Russell.

Photos by Howard Gold

Sacramento Southern Gospel Music upcoming events announced

Thanks to Patti Springsteen, Vice President of the Sacramento Southern Gospel Music Association (SSGMA) for the following calendar of Gospel events.

- March 10 (Saturday) 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Second Annual Ssgma Talent Competition. First Baptist Church, 4401 San Juan Ave., Fair Oaks, CA. Love offering will be taken.
- March 10 (Saturday) 7:00 p.m. Tim And Mary Alice Lovelace - The Crossroads Church, 411 Main St., Copperopolis, CA Call for more information (209) 785-2900 or 785-4060.
- March 11 (Sunday) 10:30 a.m. Crandall Brothers - Cottonwood Assembly of God, Gaspoint Rd., Cottonwood, CA (530) 347-3313.
- March 11 (Sunday) 6:00 p.m.. Crandall Brothers - Light House Tabernacle, 920 Ohio St., Gridley, CA. (530) 847-4553.



- March 17 (Saturday) - 7:00 p.m. Down East with Cornerstone to open at Country Oaks Baptist Church, corner of Bond & Bradshaw Rds., Elk Grove. For more information, call (916) 682-9994 or 681-2356.
- March 17 (Saturday) 7:00 p.m. Watchmen - Woodbridge Community Church, 19350 N. Lower Sacramento Rd.

Woodbridge, Ca.. Love offering. For more information email beebea@softcom.net or call church office (209) 369-6908.

- March 18 (Sunday) 10:30 a.m. Crandall Brothers - First Assembly of God, 2207 Union Ave., Fairfield, CA (707) 425-3612
- March 18 (Sunday) 5:30 p.m.

Down East - Arcade Baptist Church, 3927 Marconi Ave., Sacramento, CA. For more information, call the church office at (916) 972-1617.

For more information, e-mail the association at: SSGMA@aol.com.

UPCOMING BLUEGRASS, OLD TIME & GOSPEL MUSIC EVENTS

MARCH

- March 2-4 — **7th Annual Buckeye Bluegrass & Old Time Country Revue** with antique engine and tractor displays, at Eagle Mountain Ranch in Buckeye, AZ. Entertainers include Lost Highway, Flinthill Special, the Tylers, the Hat Band and more to be added. Presented by the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce and Buckeye Main Street Coalition. Festival is produced by Ben Sandoval and co-hosted by the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce and Eagle Mountain Ranch. For information, call 623-386-2316 or write to Eagle Mountain Ranch, 12100 S. Dean Road, Buckeye, AZ 85326.
- March 2-4 — **22nd Annual Winter Bluegrass Weekend** at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, I-494 & Hwy. 55, Minneapolis, MN. Presented by the Minnesota Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Association. Featuring a Showcase of Bands (30 in all), the Dance Parlour, and a Headline Concerts featuring the Rarely Herd — 7 p.m. with Bob Bovee and Gail Heil; and 9:30 p.m. with guest Dick Kimmel & Co. The festival also offers instrument exhibits, The Gatherin' Place, Band Development workshops and jamming. For tickets or information, call 1-800-635-3037; e-mail: jmalisch@centurytel.net; or web site: www.minnesotabluegrass.org.
- March 9 — **Brother Duet concert** at the Davis Art Center, 1919 F Street, Davis, CA, 8 p.m. An Evening of Brother Duets will feature Grammy finalists Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin, the Waller Brothers (Butch and Bob) and the MacRae Brothers. This is wonderful pre-bluegrass harmony music and you won't want to miss it. Sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. Tickets are \$14 advance and \$15 at the door with an additional \$1 discount for CBA members. Tickets are available at the Davis Art Center or by mail at Squirty Records 1117 San Gallo Terrace Davis, CA 95616. For more information, call 530-400-3872; e-mail: MatthewDudman@Yahoo.com; or

web site: www.geocities.com/matthewdudman/Flyer.htm.

- March 9-11 — **the Second NCBS Brookdale Bluegrass Festival** will be held at the historic Brookdale Lodge in Brookdale, a few miles north of Santa Cruz on Highway 9. The festival is produced by Eric Burman and co-sponsored by the Northern California Bluegrass Society. The line-up includes: Frank Solivan and Frank Solivan, Jr. and Friends; The Bladerunners; Wild Sage; Mr. Banjo & The Lonesome Wailers; Earthquake Country; All Wrecked Up; Summit Express; The Sibling Brothers; The Smokin' Hams; The Barefoot Boys; and Dan Mazer ("Banjer Dan") from Washington, DC. More bands will be added. For information or tickets, call (831) 335-3662 or e-mail: brookdalebluegrass@hotmail.com
- March 10 — **Lost Highway** in concert at the Social Work Auditorium, University of Utah, 7:30 p.m.; Tickets \$12 advance and \$15 door. For information, call 801-339-7664; e-mail: iama@xmission.com or visit the website at: http://www.iamaweb.org.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

- March 17 — **the Kathy Kallick Band** in concert, 7:30 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 5266 H Street in Sacramento, CA. Presented by the 5th String Music Store, Sacramento. Tickets are \$15 general and \$12.50 for CBA members and are available at the 5th String, 30 Alhambra St. in Sacramento. Call 916-442-8282 for information.
- March 24 — **Perfect Strangers** (Jody Stecher, Chris Brashear, Bob Black, Peter McLaughlin,

Spring

First Day of Spring March 20th

and Forrest Rose) in concert presented by Redwood Bluegrass Associates. Tickets are \$15 advance and \$18 at the door. For more information, write to RBA at P.O. Box 390846, Mountain View, CA 94039-0846; or visit their web page at www.rba.org.

- March 24 & 25 — **Bean Blossom Spring Festival** at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market Street, Wabash, Indiana. Line-up includes: Jim & Jesse & The Virginia Boys, Jeff White, Marcus & Megan Mullins, the Larkin Family, Bull Harman, Derek Dillman, Jolena Foster, The Whites, The Rarely Herd, Jeanette Williams & Clearwater, Jerry & Tammy Sullivan and Brian Bowers. For Tickets or information, call (800) 626-6345.
- 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.
- March 31 & April 1 — **Bluegrass Festival 2001** at the Rawhide Concert Pavilion at Scottsdale and Pinnacle Peak Roads in Rawhide, AZ. Bands include: Mountain Heart, the Grasshoppers, Dale Ann Bradley & Coon Creek, the Tylers & Tippecanoe, Flinthill Special, Spirit High Ride (the Cherryholmes Family), the Hat Band, Harmony Breeze, and In Folkmotion Dance Ensemble. There will also be arts and crafts shows, a clogging workshop, children's music and crafts and jamming. RV and dry camping available on site. Presented by Ben Sandoval Productions. For more information, call 480-502-5600 or visit the web site at: www.rawhide.com.

APRIL

- April 6-8 — **Mesquite Spring-**

time Bluegrass Music Festival, Eureka Mesquite Hotel and Casino, Mesquite, Nevada. Bands include: the Grasshoppers, the Bluegrass Patriots; Gift Horse, Cheyenne Lonesome, the Marty Warburton Band, the Lampkins Family Band and Just for Fun. Free parking for Rvs and special room rates. For more information, call 1-800-346-4611 or visit their website at www.eurekamesquite.com.

- 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; call or call 512-346-1629; e-mail: info@bluegrassfestival.com; or website: www.bluegrassfestival.com.
- April 7 — **Crooked Jades** in concert at the Fresno Art Museum in Fresno, CA. Sponsored by the Fresno Folklore Society. Tickets are \$12 advance and \$15 at the door. For information, call 599-431-3653.



Happy Easter April 15th

- 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.
- April 27-29 — **CBA Spring Campout** at the Gold Country Fairgrounds on old Highway 49 in Sonora, CA. RV camping \$15 and tent camping \$10 per

unit per night. For information, call Bob Thomas at 916-989-0993 or e-mail: sacbluegrass@yahoo.com.

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, Uncle Slosh and the Drunkardnauts, Grateful Dudes, Cheesy Tortalinis, Lonesome Road, Parkfield Pea Hens, Rude Rudes, Phil Salazar Band, Wild Sage and more. For information, visit the web site at www.camprude.com; phone (559) 592 6389; or e-mail: pat@camprude.com.



- May 12 — **San Diego Folk Heritage Festival**. For details, see the website at: www.windbourne.com/sdfh/music.html.
- May 12 — **Kane's River** in concert in the Social Work Auditorium at the University of Utah; 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 advance and \$15 door. For information, call 801-339-7664; e-mail: iama@xmission.com or visit the website at: http://www.iamaweb.org.
- 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.
- May 20 — **41st Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival** in Agoura Hills, CA. Events on four stages and other areas. Tickets are \$9 for ages 18-64; \$5 for ages 10-17 or over 65. Children 10 and under are free. For information, write to Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest, P.O. Box 571955, Tarzana, CA 91356;

Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Some Music?

Jam Session every Wednesday evening beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Cuppa Joe's, 194 Castro Street in Mountain View, CA. For information, call 650-967-2294.

• **North Hollywood** — Bluegrass and Old-time Jam session the 1st Saturday every month from 1:00 to 4:00pm, plus workshops at 12441 Riverside Drive in North Hollywood, CA. For information, call 818-760-1623 or visit their website at: <http://www.traditionalmusic.com>.

• **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. The Fox and Goose, long noted as a spot for good brew and live acoustic entertainment, has started to host a bluegrass jam session each month between 8:30 PM and 11:30 PM. Call Carlos at 916-806-2545 for further information.

• **Santa Cruz** — The Poet & The Patriot Irish Pub at 320 East

Cedar. There is a new bluegrass jam night on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. For information, contact the host, Bob Carter via e-mail: crt4629373@aol.com or phone (831) 462-9373.

Independent Clubs - California

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

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

• **Ceres** - Central California Old-Time Fiddlers Assn., Walter White School, 1st and 3rd Fridays 6-10 p.m. Call Bill Whitfield at (209) 892-8685 for details.

• **Coloma** - at the Vinyard House, 530 Cold Springs Road, Coloma, CA. Bluegrass and Old time Music Jam every

Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. For information call Todd Saunders at (916) 626-5615.

• **Covina** - Open Mike Night - 1st Saturday of each month at the Fret House. Call (818) 915-2023 for information.

• **Fresno area** — Kings River Bluegrass Association now meets at Temperance Kutner School on Armstrong between Olive and Belmont a few miles east of Clovis Avenue. Jams on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 7 P.M. For more information, call Pat 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.

• **Granada Hills** - Monthly bluegrass concerts produced by the Union Station Music Productions at the Granada Hills Masonic Hall, (818) 894-1643 for information.

• **Granada Hills**, Bluegrass Association of Southern California (BASC) night at Baker Square, 17921 Chatsworth Street (818) 366-7258; featured band plus open mike jamming on the third Tuesday of each month 7:30 - 10 p.m.

• **Hollywood** - Bluegrass Jam the 3rd Tuesday of every month 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. at the Highland Grounds Coffee House, 742 N. Highland Avenue, Hollywood, California. \$2 cover charge/one drink minimum. For more information call Blue Ridge Pickin' Parlor (818) 700-8288.

• **Lompoc** — Acoustic jam session, 7-10 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Southside Coffee Company, 105 South H St., Lompoc, CA (Telephone (805) 737-3730.) For further information, contact Bill Carlsen (805) 736-8241, or email Charlie Bockius via e-mail at: cbockius@sbceo.k12.ca.us

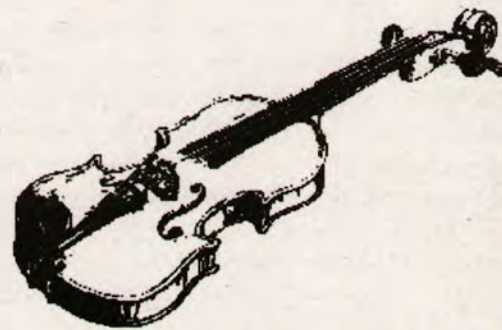
• **Long Beach**, Papas Western BBQ & Saloon, 5305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. (corner of PCH & Anaheim St.) (562) 597-4212.

Featured bluegrass band performs on Sunday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• **Manteca** - Delta Old Time Fiddlers and Bluegrass Association, 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

grass Club events — Featured band plus open mike and jamming on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 - 10 p.m. at the Carlton Oaks Country Club Crest Room, 9200 Inwood Dr. in Santee. Open Mike and Jam on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7-10 p.m. at Fuddrucker's Restaurant, 340 Third St., in Chula Vista. Bluegrass Workshops on the 2nd Saturday of every month, call for time, topic and location.



the month. The Courthouse Ramblers do a set starting at 7:00 PM, and other musicians are welcome to join in for a bluegrass picking party for the second set, starting about 8:00 PM. For information on the music phone Keith Hayes at (831) 375-2975. For information on Phil's, phone (831) 633-2152, or check out the web site at philfishmarket.com.

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

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

• **Rialto** - Jam 4th Sunday of every month at the C&A Barn, 916 S. Riverside Ave, Rialto, CA. 10 a.m. until late afternoon. For information call (714) 874-0550 or (714) 874-4771.

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

• **San Diego** - San Diego Blue-

All events are free! Call (619) 286-1836.

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

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

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

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

• **Santa Cruz** — Bluegrass jam session at the Poet and Patriot Irish Pub in Santa Cruz, CA every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

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

Continued on B-16



Where Can I Go To Hear/Play Some Music?

Continued from B-15

0973 for information.

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

Arizona

- **Bisbee** - Bluegrass Jam Session every other Sunday at 1 p.m., Quartermoon Coffeehouse in Bisbee, AZ. For information, call Steve at 520-432-9088.
- **Tempe** - Traditional Acoustic Bluegrass Jam session, every Wednesday from 7-10 p.m. in

Tempe, AZ. For confirmation of dates and locations, call Howard or Susan at 602-897-7425.

- **Tucson** - Bluegrass Jam 1st Sunday each month, 6:30 p.m. at Sabino Canyon Visitors Center, Sabino Canyon Rd., Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by the Desert Bluegrass Association. For information, call Val Goodfellow at 520-615-0340.
- **Tucson** - Bluegrass Jam 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Rincon Market, North side of 6th St., near Tucson Blvd., Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by the Desert Bluegrass Association. For information, call Steve Nelson 520-670-0181.
- **Tucson** - Bluegrass Jam, 3rd Sunday each month, 4 p.m. at the Texas T-Bone Restaurant, 8981 E. Tanque Verde, Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by the Desert Bluegrass Association. For information, call Bonnie

Lohman 520-296-1231.

- **Tucson** - Bluegrass jam, 4th Sunday each month, 4 p.m., Pizza Hut Restaurant, 2942 N. Campbell, Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by the Desert Bluegrass Association. For information, call Bonnie Lohman 520-296-1231.
- **Tucson** - Old-Time Fiddle Jam Session, every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Southwest Community Center, Cardinal Avenue, Tucson, AZ. Sponsored by the Southern AZ Old Time Fiddlers Association. For information, call Ray at 520-747-2157.
- **Tucson** - Gospel Music Jam Session, every Friday at 7 p.m., Tucson Church of the Brethren, 2200 N. Dodge, Tucson, AZ. For information, call 520-327-6807.



Answers to Music Quiz

Quiz on page A-3

1. Curly Sechler.
2. John Ray Sechler.
3. Banjo.
4. June 13, 1952.
5. The Virginia Boys.
6. Hoke Jenkins - banjo; Curly Sechler - guitar; Sonny James - fiddle; Bob Moore - bass.

6 correct = prodigy
5 correct = outstanding
4 correct = excellent

3 correct = good
1-2 correct = fair

CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION LOGO MERCHANDISE ITEMS

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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 - Bl., Grn., Lt. Gray, M-XXXL	\$14.00
Visor - Yellow/Gold Terry cloth	\$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
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