

## Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival Invites CBA Kids On Bluegrass

Free event - Saturday, May 3rd, 2008, Windsor, California

By Sharon Elliott

A couple years ago I received a suggestion to start a Kids on Bluegrass website for the CBA. With Jill Cruey designing the web site and the help of Molly Espinoza I began to put everything I had writ-

ten about the Kids on Bluegrass on the website as well as pictures of them from performances. It's a great web site and although I have taken a year off from writing, the web site seems to find its way to people all over the country and I



OMG plays Foggy Mountain: Nate Schwartz, Marty Varner and Max Schwartz. Not pictured: AJ Lee

often receive phone calls asking about the CBA and the Kids on Bluegrass program. Always the people that call tell me what a great thing we do with our kids and ask if there are any other bluegrass associations that have this kind of program. It's really fun to hear the excitement in the voices of those that call. When I ask them how they heard about the site

*Continued on A-7*

## Frank Ray & Cedar Hill - Sacramento, May 3, 2008

By John Hettinger

We are very fortunate to have the Frank Ray & Cedar Hill bluegrass perform in concert at 7:30 PM (doors open at 7:00 PM), Saturday, May 3, at the Faith Presbyterian Church, 625 Florin Rd, Sacramento (Pocket area). This Missouri-based band is one of the finest traditional bluegrass bands traveling in the country today, and they always please their audiences. They have won many awards, both



individually and collectively, and their latest CD Poverty Row is currently one of the top albums on the bluegrass charts. They may even have a newer CD for us at the concert. Tickets will be available at the door for \$18. For more info, contact John Hettinger, bluegrass@shaunv.com or 916-990-0719, or visit [www.cedarhillbluegrass.com](http://www.cedarhillbluegrass.com).

## Father's Day Bluegrass Festival!

June 12-15, 2008

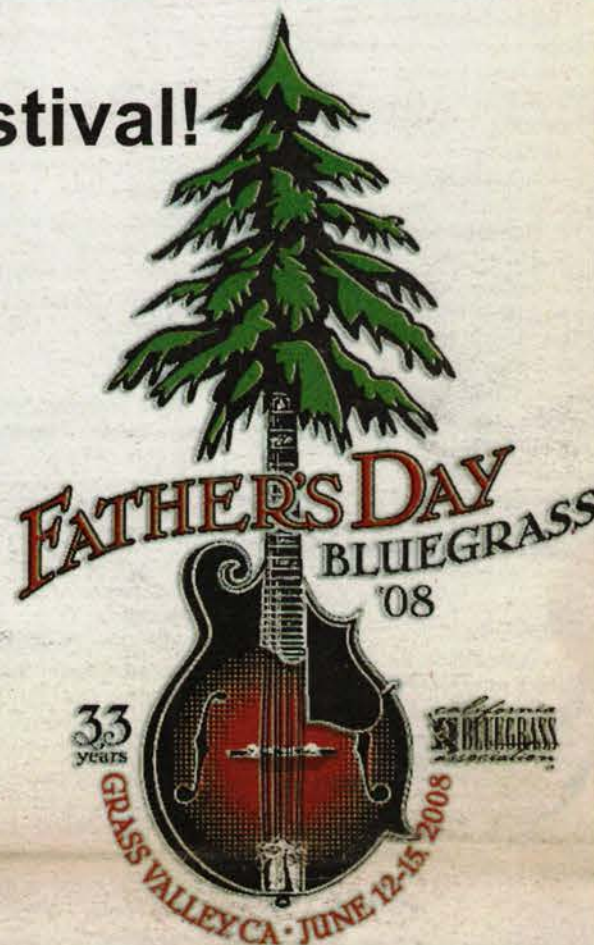
The tall pines of the Nevada Country Fairgrounds are bracing themselves for what is sure to be a rocking Father's Day Bluegrass Festival. The deadline for advance ticket purchases is May 31st, so please mail in the form in this newsletter or visit [www.cbaontheweb.org](http://www.cbaontheweb.org) to order your tickets at the CBA member, advance purchase bargain price.

See page A-12 for the Father's Day Festival band and workshop schedules.

This year the FDF is new and improved. Instead of those hot mid-afternoon sets under the blazing sun you can attend one of our Mega Workshops in the shaded Pine Tree Stage area. Or you can mosey over to Vern's, buy a cool beverage and see some of California's best bands on the Vern's stage.

Look for members of the CBA leadership at the gate as you check in. Ask them questions or just say howdy.

As usual we have a superb lineup of stars on the main stage and unlimited picking in the campground. Please join us for fun and bluegrass adventures at the CBA's flagship event.



## NCBS Announces New August Dates, Bands For 15th Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival

By Michael Hall

The Northern California Bluegrass Society's Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival will change dates from July to August. The 15th annual festival will run Friday-Sunday, August 8-10, 2008 at Bolado Park in Hollister. The festival is a showcase of outstanding California bluegrass and old-time talent and is a benefit for the NCBS.

The band line-up includes Abbott Family Band, Amazing Dr. Zarcón's Breathing Machine, Bean

*Continued on A-20*



Belle Monroe and Her Brewglass Boys play at the 2008 Good Old Fashioned Festival in Hollister

## Inside this issue...



CBA 2008 Spring Campout review

--see B-1



CBA Father's Day Festival schedules

-- see A-12-13

### PLUS...

- Bluegrass 'n Stuff
- Feature Articles
- Calendar of Events
- Studio Insider
- Luthier's Corner
- Recording Reviews
- J.D. 's Kitchen

### Time to renew your membership?

Check out the date on mailing label below.

Bluegrass Breakdown  
California Bluegrass Association  
P.O. Box 5037  
Marysville, CA 95901

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 569  
Stockton, CA

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*SCH 3-DIGIT 952  
mbr#2373 exp9/30/2008

J.D. Rhynes -  
PO BOX 1303  
WEST POINT, CA 95255-1303



[www.cbaontheweb.org](http://www.cbaontheweb.org)





## 2007/2008 Leadership Team

### Board of Directors

**Lisa Burns --Development & Sponsorships VP, Music Camp Liaison**  
312 Walker Drive  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
650-303-4600  
lisa@lisaonbass.com

**Rick Cornish -- Chairman Web Team Leader**  
10740 Whiskey Creek Rd.  
Sonoma, CA 95370  
209-588-9214  
rcornish@sjcoe.net

**John Duncan - Member Giving VP, Goodwill Ambassador**  
2915 57th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95817  
916-736-0415

**Tim Edes -- Grass Valley Assistant Festival Director SuperGrass Entertainment Coord.**  
17720 Telfer Drive  
Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
408-779-5456  
tedes@verizon.net

**Montie Elston -- Grass Valley Festival Director**  
4828 Western Avenue  
Oliverhurst, CA, 95961-4125  
530-749-9504  
fiddle3@lanset.com

**Rich Evans -- GV Elect./Trans./Commun. Coord.**  
22039 Old Santa Cruz Hwy  
Los Gatos, CA 95030-8807  
408-353-4568  
rich.evans1@verizon.net

**Darby Brandli - President**  
2106 - 9th Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94606-2612  
510-533-2792  
darbyandbruno@comcast.net

**Debra Livermore**  
902 Del Paso Blvd. #6  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
916-567-1972  
hippie7916@sbcglobal.net

**Bruce Campbell - Publicity Director**  
524 Masonic St  
Martinez, Ca94553  
925-228-1658  
bc@bluemoonbros.com

**Carl Pagter -- Chairman Emeritus**  
17 Julianne Court  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-2610  
925-938-4221

**J.D. Rhynes -- GV Backstage Manager**  
P.O. Box 1303  
West Point, CA 95255-1303  
209-293-1296  
jdrynes@volcano.net

**Craig Wilson - Full Hookup Lottery Coordinator**  
11119 Academy Avenue,  
Bakersfield, CA 93312  
661-589-8249  
craigw1@sbcglobal.net

### Officers

**Ed Alston -- Treasurer**  
P.O. Box 6954  
Santa Maria, CA 93456  
805-349-8397  
edalston@aol.com

**Darby Brandli -- President**  
2106 - 9th Avenue  
Oakland, CA 94606-2612  
510-533-2792  
darbyandbruno@comcast.net

**Bob Thomas -- Controller/ Director of Operations**  
8532 Cumulus Way,

Orangevale, CA 95662  
916-989-0993  
sacbluegrass@comcast.net

**Valerie Cornejo -- Assistant Director of Operations**  
(209) 745-5578  
notableval@sbcglobal.net

**Dan Bernstein - Assistant Director of Operations**  
530-644-7005  
dbncb@wildblue.net

**Diana Donnelly -- Secretary**  
209-530-9101  
doowaaa@sbcglobal.net

**Carolyn Faubel -- Membership VP**  
P.O. Box 5037  
Marysville, CA 95901-8501  
530-741-1259  
CBAMembership@syix.com

**Bob Thomas -- Statewide Activities VP**  
sacbluegrass@comcast.net

**John Duncan -- Member Giving VP, Goodwill Ambassador**  
2915 57th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95817  
916-736-0415

### Area Activities Vice Presidents

**Mark Hogan -- North Coast**  
707-829-8012  
hogiemoon@comcast.net

**Bruno Brandli -- East Bay**  
510-533-2792  
darbyandbruno@comcast.net

**Bill Schneiderman -- Delta-Sierra**  
209-586-3815  
mandobil@bigvalley.net

**John Hettinger - Sacramento**  
113 Puffer Way  
Folsom, CA 95630  
916-990-0719  
bluegrass@shaunv.com

**Chuck Poling - San Francisco**  
310 Willard North Street  
San Francisco, CA 94118  
polingsf@earthlink.net

**Lucy Smith -- Butte and Tehama Counties**  
530-894-1449  
lucyinchico@hotmail.com

**Roger Siminoff -- Central Coast**  
805-474-4876  
siminoff@siminoff.net

**Craig Wilson -- South San Joaquin Valley**  
661-589-8249  
craigw1@sbcglobal.net

**Henry Zuniga- Fresno/Kings County**  
559-338-0026  
zuniga1@mail.com

**Dave Gooding- Solano and Yolo Counties**  
707-448-5160  
davegooding@sbcglobal.net

**Duane Campbell - South Bay Area**  
408-892-9157  
dcfiddles@gmail.com

**Pat Calhoun - Napa County**  
707-318-1913  
patcal@napanet.net

**Bob Schwartz - Contra Costa County**  
925-932-0587  
RSchwartz@TruckerHuss.com

**Larry Carlin - Marin County**  
415-332-8498  
carltonet@yahoo.com

**Year-Round Jobs**

**Larry Kuhn -- Organization Liaison**  
177 Stoney Hill Drive  
Folsom, CA 95630-4623  
916-983-2275  
folsomflash@yahoo.com

**Bob Calkins -- Photographer**  
530-644-1587  
motherlode@innercircle.com

**Mike Melnyk - Photographer**  
mike@melnyk-wood.com

**Bob Thomas -- Entertainment Contract Reviewer**

916-989-0993  
sacbluegrass@comcast.net

**Mark Varner - Editor, Bluegrass Breakdown**  
PO Box 1245  
Boulder Creek, CA 95006  
831-338-0618  
mrvarner@ix.netcom.com

**Steve and Sharon Elliott -- Darrell Johnston Kids Lending Library**  
510-728-7613  
kidslendinglibrary@yahoo.com

**Paige Anderson -- Teen Ambassador**  
mark@andersonfamilybluegrass.com

**Josh Micheals -- E-Commerce Mgr.**  
cbaEcommerce@gmail.com  
Phone 209-985-4677

**Steve Johnson -- T-Shirt Design and Production**  
415-927-3733  
heysteve@comcast.net

**John Erwin -- Mail Ticket Sales**  
707-448-1970  
john.erwin@sbcglobal.net

**Lee Hardesty -- Insurance Advisor**  
530-876-1551  
aml1944@aol.com

**Jack Hyland -- Mercantile Coordinator**  
209-303-0015  
jck49hyland@yahoo.com

**Frank Solivan -- Kids on Stage Direc.**

**Ambassador at large**  
408-656-8549

**Whit Washburn -- Contract Legal Advisor**  
916-933-2106  
wfwahsburn@wfwashburn.com

**Rosanna Young -- Volunteer Coordinator**  
530-346-8870  
rosanna@youngconstruction.com

### Festival Coordinators

**Mark Hogan -- Sebastopol Festival Director**  
3980 Monika Ct.  
Sebastopol, CA 95472-5741  
707-829-8012  
hogiemoon@comcast.net

**Kathleen Rushing -- Music Camp Children's Program**  
9780 Mennet Way  
San Ramon, Ca 94583  
925 828 5825  
Kafween@mac.com

**Bill Arbaugh, -- Ice Booth**  
503-668-8610  
blueroadbill@yahoo.com

**Jim Ingram - Ice Wagon coord.**  
408-847-6837

**Larry Baker -- Concessions**  
209-785-4693  
roaddog@caltel.com

**Dick Grundy - Security**  
530-587-5753  
tagrbg@sbcglobal.net

**Ron Custer -- Stage Construction**  
530-559-2596  
custer@roadsideminiestries.com

**Ruthie Tompkins/Angela Weaver -- Children's Program**  
ruthierig@aol.com  
awsleeper@yahoo.com

**Steve Hogle -- Assistant Entertainment**  
707-838-6011  
stevehobbluegrass@yahoo.com

**John Skaar -- Handicapped Camping**  
509-427-8928  
johnskaar@saw.net

**Craig Wilson - Full Hookup Lottery Coordinator**  
11119 Academy Avenue,  
Bakersfield, CA 93312  
661-589-8249  
craigw1@sbcglobal.net

**Debra Livermore --**

**Vern's Coordinator**  
916-825-9762  
dliwermore@shra.org

**Tom Reed -- T-Shirt Sales**  
408-623-2398  
banjogarlic@yahoo.com

**David Zimmerman - Vern's Stage**

**Russell Loop -- Entertainment**  
4115 Tahoe Vista Drive  
Rocklin, CA 95765-5091  
916-276-3201  
russloopcba@yahoo.com

**David Brace - Gate Crew**  
209 534-9284

**Mike McGar -- Gate Ticket Sales**  
209-572-3735  
mcgarm@yosemite.cc.ca.us

**Bill Meiners -- Comp. Tickets**  
408-683-0666  
bill.meiners@asg.com

**Ingrid Noyes -- Music Camp Director**  
415-663-1342  
ingrid10@sonic.net

**Tom Parker -- Stage Lighting**  
916-988-5996  
knockonwood@lanset.com

**Dana Thorin - Marketing Director/ vendor co-ordinator - SuperGrass**  
626-590-5177  
danathorin@gmail.com

**Joyce Bowcock - Raffle Booth co-ordinator**  
916-366-3914  
bluemommahen@yahoo.com

**Carol Canby - Water Booth coord.**  
530-832-0340  
canbysonthego@msn.com

**Dorothy McCoy - Headquarters Telephone co-ordinator**  
530-620-4818  
r-dmccoy@sonic.net

**Jim Ingram - Ice Wagon coord.**  
408-847-6837

**Patty Thorpe - Utility coordinator**  
916-929-9185

**John Lonczak - Dancing coordinator**  
408- 247-5706

### Web Team

**Almost Daily Editor - Larry Carlin**  
l\_carlin@hotmail.com

**Bands -- Grant Johnston**  
livebluegrass@aol.com

**Calendar -- Suzanne Denison**  
bgsbreakdown@volcano.net

**Kids on Bluegrass Page**

**Jill Cruely**  
jillc@netvista.net

**Sharon Elliott**  
shickey6@yahoo.com

**Bill Downs - Links, Music Instructors, and Luthiers**  
bilnfay@ix.netcom.com

**Message Board -- Sharon Elliott**  
shickey6@yahoo.com

**Photo Gallery Manager -- Ken Reynolds**  
cprhds2@caltel.com

**Radio Grass -- Darla Novak**  
Novakd42@apol.com

**Recorded Music -- George Ireton**  
george@shastawebdesign.com

**Splash Page/MP3 Manager -- Pat Garcia**  
patgarcia@direcway.com

**Welcome Columnists**

**Bruce Campbell**  
bc@bluemoonbros.com

**Mark Varner**  
mrvarner@ix.netcom.com

**Nancy Zuniga**  
57silverhawk@unwiredbb.com

**Henry Zuniga**  
zuniga1@mail.com

**George Martin**  
georaymartin@yahoo.com

**Phil Cornish**  
phil@comstalkdesign.net

**J.D. Rhynes**  
jdrynes@volcano.net

**Gene Bach**  
Gene.Bach@fire.ca.gov

**Jon Fox**  
jhfox95816@yahoo.com

**David Lange**  
dflange@foothill.net

**Kyle Abbott**  
fiddlefella@hotmail.com

**Darby Brandli**  
darbyandbruno@comcast.net

**Josh Micheals**  
jmicheals@sjcoe.net

Make it real at

**SoundWave**  
RECORDING

Real time live recording = real sound. Your sound.



Sam Bush with four-time Grammy-winning engineer & producer Rich Adler.

- Custom-designed project plan to fit your budget
- Enjoy working in this professional, relaxed, spacious Nashville studio
- Gold & Platinum album winner

"Rich has the best ears east of the Mississippi."  
-Claire Lynch

JOIN THE RANKS OF ALISON KRAUSS • MARTY STUART • JOHNNY CASH • DOLLY PARTON • JOHN PRINE • RICKY SKAGGS • NEW GRASS REVIVAL • SAM BUSH • DOC WATSON • JOHN HARTFORD • BELA FLECK • THE OSBORNE BROTHERS • IPO TYME OUT • CLAIRE LYNCH • SKAGGS & RICE • NASHVILLE BLUEGRASS BAND • VALERIE SMITH & LIBERTY PIKE • BENNY MARTIN • BLUE HIGHWAY • MIKE SNIDER AND BENEFIT FROM THE DEPTH OF EXPERIENCE THAT YIELDS EXCEPTIONAL RESULTS EVERY TIME.



Contact Rich for your free consultation to assess and plan your project  
615 297 6650 • soundwavestudio@aol.com  
1813 8th Avenue South • Nashville, TN 37203 • www.soundwaverecording.com



### California Bluegrass Association Membership Application

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Categories:

Single Membership \$25.00  
 With Spouse/other added \$30.00  
 Children 13-18 (non-voting) \$1.00 each  
 Children 13-18 (voting) \$10.00 each  
 Band Memberships Out of State Only (3-5 Members) \$40.00

Membership includes 12 issues of the Bluegrass Breakdown, and discount prices for all CBA sponsored festivals and concerts. Band memberships available for out-of-state bands. Each member is entitled to one copy of the publication. Please write names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper. **Prices subject to change without notice. Out of United States? Postal rates may be higher, please inquire.**

#### Please sign me up for the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Single - 1 vote for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) @\$25  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Couple - 2 votes for \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) @\$30  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Add \_\_\_\_\_ non-voting Children @\$1 each  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Add \_\_\_\_\_ voting Children @\$10 each

Children's names and birthdates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal of Member # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kids on Bluegrass Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CBA Heritage Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kids Instrument Lending \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Library Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to California Bluegrass Association (CBA). All donations are tax deductible.

Mail to: CBA Membership Vice President Carolyn Faubel  
 PO Box 5037

Marysville, CA 95901-8501

For information, call 530-741-1259  
 or email CBAMembership@syix.com

If Senior Citizens (65 and over), please list birth years: \_\_\_\_\_

## Arrr matey! What's this?



### Looks like a membership application!

### California Bluegrass Association Bluegrass Breakdown

is published monthly as a tabloid newspaper at P.O. Box 5037 Marysville, CA 95901, 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. The views of the authors does not necessarily reflect the views of the CBA or its Board of Directors. Membership in the CBA costs \$25 a year and includes a subscription to the *Bluegrass Breakdown*. A spouse's membership may be added for an additional \$5 and children between 13 and 18 for \$1.00 per child. Children 13-18 who wish to vote will have to join for \$10.00. Names and ages are required.

Band memberships are only available for the out of state bands; cost is \$40. 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 5037 Marysville, CA 95901. Copy and advertising deadline is the 1st of the month, one month prior to publication (i.e. February deadline is January 1st, etc).

Members are encouraged to attend all board meetings. Please contact any board member or call the CBA office at 916 838-6828 for information and directions.

Please send all contributions and advertisements to:

Mark Varner, editor - P.O. Box 1245, Boulder Creek, CA 95006  
 831-338-0618 -- email mrvarner@ix.netcom.com

Visit our Web Site at: [www.cbaontheweb.org](http://www.cbaontheweb.org)

Editor.....Mark Varner  
 Columnist.....Bill Wilhelm  
 Columnist.....Kyle Abbott  
 Columnist.....Chuck Poling  
 Columnist.....J.D. Rhynes  
 Columnist.....Darby Brandli  
 Columnist.....Cliff Compton  
 Columnist.....Joe Weed  
 Columnist.....Al Shank  
 Feature Writers.....Larry Carlin, John Hettinger, Wendy Stockton, Suzanne Denison, Deirdre Donovan, Shelby Ash, Ingrid Noyes, Sharon Elliott, Michael Hall, Yvonne Tatar, Monte Hendricks, Deb Livermore, Lilly Pavlak, George Ireton, Pat Calhoun

Photography.....Bob Calkins, Tom Tworek, Mike Melnyk, Mark Varner

Recording Reviews & Interviews.....Brenda Hough

©2008 California Bluegrass Association. All Rights Reserved. Reprint requests must be made in advance by contacting the Editor.

## Just because you love bluegrass doesn't mean you have to be behind the times.

You'll be surprised how much there is to know about a music that's been around for 50 years. Our new CBA website brings you right up to date, with features like:

- Latest band news.
- Listing of jams throughout the state.
- CD reviews and online sources.
- Calendar with hundreds of events.
- CBA news events.
- Best of the Bluegrass Breakdown.
- Over 80 band profiles.

Interactive message board.

Regional news.

Online tickets / membership renewal.

Radio-grass listings.

Photo gallery.



[cbaontheweb.org](http://cbaontheweb.org)

### Bluegrass Breakdown Advertising Rates

Display Advertising	Black & White ads	Four color ads
Full Page - 10" wide X 12.75" high.....	\$255.00	\$320.00
Half Page - horizontal -- 10" wide X 6.5" tall .....	\$144.00	\$180.00
Half Page - vertical -- 4.5" wide X 12.75" tall .....	\$134.00	\$170.00
Quarter Page 4.5" wide X 6.5" tall .....	\$70.00	\$90.00
Business Card - 2 columns wide (3 7/8") X 2" tall ..	\$35.00	\$45.00

Flyer insertion is available. Inquire for cost.

Other sizes of advertising are available. Discount pricing is applied to pre-paid ads running 3 months, 6 months or 12 months. Please call 831-338-0618 or email: [mrvarner@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mrvarner@ix.netcom.com) for further information.

Advertisements should be submitted as PDF (or other approved format) files either on disc, CD or via e-mail. Advertisements can be produced by the editor upon request if artwork and photographs are submitted in advance.

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

Special rates are in place for festival issues, due to the greater amount of issues printed and copies distributed. This is usually 200% of the regular rate, but the Board of Directors of the CBA reserves the right to change the policy at their discretion. Please contact the Editor for more details.

#### Classified Advertising

The current rates for classified ads are based on 3 1/2 inches of typed copy and are as follows: \$8.00 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. A 12% late fee will be charged if advertising invoices are not paid within 60 days of billing.

Make checks payable to the California Bluegrass Association and send check and ad to:

Mark Varner, Editor *Bluegrass Breakdown*

P.O. Box 1245, Boulder Creek, CA 95006

Phone 831-338-0618 or email [mrvarner@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mrvarner@ix.netcom.com)

Ads can be uploaded to the CBA FTP site at: <http://www.cbaontheweb.org/AdUpload.asp>



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK - Darby Brandli

### Valuable Volunteers

The California Bluegrass Association is an all volunteer organization. The elected Directors and appointed Officers all have year round responsibilities and some of these jobs are huge. The organization would wither and die without our committed and talented volunteers.

I have been in close contact recently with some of these unsung volunteers and want to take a moment this month to thank them and introduce some to you. The elected Board of Directors work tirelessly on your behalf and there are others, not known to most of you, who work equally hard year round to serve the mission of the CBA.



Carolyn Faubel

**Rosanna Young** is Volunteer Coordinator and works year round to make certain the Father's Day Festival volunteers are lined up each year. Rosanna also plans and produces the wonderful Volunteer Thank You Potluck held Wednesday night before the beginning of the FDF. Without Rosanna's com-

mitment and organizational abilities, the festival could not occur.

**Carolyn Faubel** is the Membership VP and receives, processes and inputs all CBA memberships into our data base. Carolyn submits a monthly membership report to the Directors each month. An accurate and up to date membership list is essential to our organization and Carolyn does a great job.



Russ Loop

**Russell Loop** is our Entertainment Coordinator and super organizer. Russ is in contact with all the bands performing at our festival and helps with travel arrangements and determines the schedule. Russ is also in charge of the backstage area during the entire festival. The festival entertainment and stage run without a hitch because of the enormous amount of planning done by Russ.

**Larry Baker** lines up our concessions and organizes all their locations. The merchandise booths, association booths, luthiers tent and food vendors would not be there for all of us if not for Larry. Lar-

ry is responsible to make certain we have a wide variety of food to choose from and I certainly notice the improvement in choice since Larry has taken over this responsibility.

**John Erwin** (mail ticket sales) and **Josh Micheals** (e-Commerce) work year round to make certain these functions operate without a hitch for all our events. Thanks guys.

**Dave Zimmerman** stood up to the plate this year and developed our brand new Father's Day Festival website [www.fathersdayfestival.com](http://www.fathersdayfestival.com). Dave is also the Coordinator for the Vern's stage and is busy in the San Francisco area organizing bluegrass events.



Ed Alston

**Ed Alston** is our Treasurer, truly a thankless job. Ed lives on the South Coast and drives up to most events in the Northern part of the State. The Treasurer's job can only be held by someone with impeccable credentials, which Ed definitely

has, and he makes an enormous contribution to our organization.

**The Web Team** invisibly keeps up our well visited website. Very visible are the columnists whose jobs are never ending but the photo site run by Ken Reynolds, the calendar kept up by Suzanne Denison, the bands section run by Grant Johnston, the Kids on Bluegrass page managed by Sharon Elliott and Jill Crucey, the Links section maintained by Bill Downs, the Radio Grass section managed by Darla Novak and Recorded Music by George Ireton are essential components of our successful onthefweb project. The web team had huge challenges this year and deserves our gratitude. Rick Cornish should be issued a crown for the hours he has spent protecting our website and developing an advertising base that pays for the maintenance of the site and brings more visitors to it.



Bob Thomas

**Robert Thomas** wears multiple hats for the CBA as State Wide Ac-



photo: Mike Melnyk

Darby Brandli

ivities VP and Controller/Director of Operations. Bob organizes our campouts and helps with the coordination of our Area VPs. Bob and his team (Valerie Cornejo and Dan Bernstein) are also the watchdogs of the Association and make certain deadlines are kept, budgets are developed and adhered to and that we remain as transparent to our membership as possible.

**Mark Varner** works tirelessly to produce our award winning Bluegrass Breakdown and to recruit advertisers, make certain the printers both print and mail the paper and to make us proud we belong to such a high profile bluegrass association. Job well done Mark.

**The Directors** are my heroes and work tirelessly to support the mission of our organization. The festival volunteers, the concert volunteers, the Area Activities VPs, the volunteers who participate for specific events keep us a year round organization. The job of you, our members, is to introduce your friends and neighbors to the music and to attend our events. Without our loyal membership base we would have no organization and the music would fade.

## Concert benefits Pixton family - Alameda, May 17th

Cancer. The word no one wants to hear once, much less three times. The Pixton Family of Alameda has heard it all too often. They have been hit hard with cancer in the past 4 years. Three members of this family of six, baby Porter (now 4) Jim (the dad) and Jen (the mom) have all been diagnosed with cancer. Jen has just finished her chemotherapy treatments and now it is time to help raise some much needed money for this self-employed family to help them pay for ever-escalating medical expenses.

On Saturday, May 17th, at Michael's Auctions By The Bay Theater in Alameda, a benefit concert to aid the family will feature music from The Bay Island Ramblers, The Kentucky Twisters, The Back Yard Party Boys, and headlining the show is Dark Hollow. Doors open and pre-show activities start at 5:00 PM, featuring food carts, bake sale and

general outdoor fun for the kids, with the music beginning at 6:00 PM. All seats are general admission and can be purchased in advance by credit card by entering Pixton Pickin' Party at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com), at selected Alameda businesses, or at the door on the evening of the show. Adult (18+)- \$15, Youth (5-17)- \$10, Children under 5—free (on lap).

Auctions By The Bay Theatre, a beautiful art deco theater seating 450, is located at 2700 Saratoga Street, Alameda, CA 94501. For directions to the theater, go to [www.auctionsby-thebay.com](http://www.auctionsby-thebay.com) and for questions e-mail [pixtonpickin-party@yahoo.com](mailto:pixtonpickin-party@yahoo.com).

Donations can be made to: The Jen Pixton Cancer Fund, PO Box 6001, Alameda, CA 94501. Please make checks payable to: The Jen Pixton Cancer Fund.



Dark Hollow is among the bands performing at this benefit for a family hard hit by cancer.

**GOODTIME**  
Relax and Enjoy the Sound

Rhannon Giddens of the Carolina Chocolate Drops with her Goodtime Banjo

Made in U.S.A.

(800) 845-7791  
[www.deeringbanjos.com](http://www.deeringbanjos.com)



# Minutes of the March 9, 2008 - California Bluegrass Association Board Meeting

## SYNOPSIS OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 9, 2008 BOARD MEETING

### CALL TO ORDER

Rick Cornish, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. at the home Steve and Esther House in Sebastopol.

### ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Rick Cornish, Lisa Burns, John Duncan, Craig Wilson, Bruce Campbell, Darby Brandli and Deb Livermore

### Officers Present:

Diana Donnelly, John Hettinger, Ed Alston and Ingrid Noyes

### Members Present:

Esther House and Steve House

### SETTING OF THE AGENDA

After three additions were made to the agenda it was set.

Moved: Burns

Second: Wilson

Carried: Unanimous

### APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Rich Cornish asked for motions to approve the February minutes.

Moved: Cornish

Second: Campbell

Carried: Unanimous

### PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON UN-AGENDIZED ITEMS

There were none.

### OLD BUSINESS

Long-range/strategic planning committee proposed direction - Burns

Lisa proposed having the committee look into no more than 3-5 goals to be achieved in a 3-5 year period. It was decided that the plan will be brought to the board at a later date.

### Open Position Appointments

#### - All

Motion: To approve Mike Melnyk as an official photographer for the CBA

Moved: Cornish

Second: Brandli

Carried: Unanimous

Craig Wilson reported that he may have found a volunteer to take over the Education Director position, named Amy Kileen, but she won't be available until later in the summer as she will be out of the country for a while.

### Stage roofing price update

#### - Cornish

Rick and J.D. went to the canopy company to get new bid on shorter poles and another bid from a different vendor. \$8000 became \$11,000 because of the change in the design and adding some trusses. Tim got a price on just

recovering the existing structure of \$2700. Montie feels we don't need to spend the money to entirely replace the stage cover at this time. Mark Hogan thought we could raise the front a few inches and create a "pitch". This was tabled to the next meeting for more discussion and research.

### Sponsorship update - Burns

Lisa reported that she has started contacting sponsors.

### Expired members - calling

#### - Cornish

Rick asked how everyone was doing with their calls and emphasized how important it is that everyone keeps up with making their share of calls.

### Fairgrounds contract committee

#### - Cornish

Deb Livermore has been added to the fairgrounds contract committee.

### Bar code wrist band control at

#### FDF -

Montie was going to research the bar code type of wrist bands but that will have to wait until, at least, next year. Ed Alston will put a system in place to better control the wrist bands.

Motion: To put the purchase and control of the wrist band purchase in the hands of the treasurer.

Moved: Brandli

Second: Duncan

Carried: Unanimous

Darby is to contact Mike McGar to advise him of this decision, to find out if he's ordered the new ones yet and where are the old ones. The old ones will be used as they usually are, where needed, and those that cannot be used at the festival can be used at other CBA events or donated to other music related non-profit organizations.

### CBA Music Awards - Campbell

Bruce reported on this idea. He said he would like a co-coordinator to bounce ideas off of. He said we could have the voting on line. He also thought it would be a good idea to announce the award winners a month ahead of the date of the actual presentation of awards.

### Rosanna Young - Livermore

Debra Livermore presented a written proposal to award a Distinguished Service Award to Rosanna Young. This was approved last meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

### Advanced ticket sales status for FDF 2008 - Cornish/Erwin/Micheals

It was reported that the advanced ticket sales are up for February, an improvement over January. The total sales are up from this time last year.

### Dance at FDF 2008? - Burns

Lisa wondered if we were having a dance again this year. Lisa is going to call Carl and see if his band might be willing to play for a dance on Friday or Saturday night and if, so, look into the mechanics of having it again.

### TAG contract update - Pagter

Claire Lynch and The Grascals are booked and the Ild Tyme out contract is still pending.

The Daley & Vincent, Dan Paisley and Steel Driver contracts are in.

### Band scramble at Turlock -

#### Cornish

The board decided to go ahead with the idea of having a band scramble at the Spring campout.

### Beer and wine sales at Vern's

#### - Livermore

Deb has sent a letter to Gugliamo and hasn't heard back yet. Lisa will be contacting Sierra Nevada. Deb distributed a proposal for signage stating that no alcoholic beverages will be allowed in the main stage area.

### FDF Website - Brandli

Dave Zimmerman is about ready with this site. Darby said there are some really good features on it.

### Comp Tickets to City of Roseville and Roseville Flyer for FDF - Cornish

Rick reported that Christie Anderson is going to attend a Young teen annual gathering. This is a yearly event for around 500 young teens and the Anderson Family will be playing for them. This would be a good way to entice young people who display an interest in the music to expose them to more. Christie would like to have some FDF flyers to take to this Roseville event. Rick also requested 30 comp tickets for these 7th & 8th graders. This would be no cost to us because it might bring in some families who would otherwise not have come and, hopefully, make them want to come again or to more CBA events.

Motion: To give Christie 30 4-day tickets to distribute in this manner.

Moved: Cornish

Second: Burns

Carried: Unanimous

### Music Camp Update

Ingrid addressed the board and presented a summary sheet. She said the camp is almost completely full. The scholarship fund is in fine shape. Looking ahead to next year, she anticipates that the classes will fill up even more quickly and she requested some direction from the board as to what criteria should be used to determine who will get into the class. She felt a lottery system is the worst of the ideas. She is more in favor of giving priority to younger people.

She proposed to spend some unexpected income of \$347 for the

return of some unused radios to bring Kenny Hall back.

Wednesday they have a student concert and, for the last couple of years, a short concert on Wednesday night. She would like someone to oversee this event and she needs funding. She advised that Scott Tichenor of the Mandolin Café will contribute \$700. She will contribute \$250 and requested \$250 from us. Darby volunteered to raise these funds.

### Comp policy - Instructors

#### - Burns

Lisa wondered if the Music Camp instructors are still being comped into the festival. Single day comp subtracted from the cost of a 4 day festival ticket. The Vern's bands get paid \$250 plus each band member gets a one day pass for the day they are playing, if they need one. If they are planning to be there more than one day, then the cost of the ticket for the day they are playing is deducted from the total ticket price.

### Greening of Grass Valley -

#### Brandli

We will be encouraging all vendors and attendees to use recyclable items, as much as possible.

### Breakdown ad sales - status and profitability - Varner

Mark went to NAMM and brought some contact info back. We need to find a bluegrass person who has some time and skills to work on getting us some advertisement. Mark has written up a Welcome Message that is, in actuality, a want ad.

### T-Shirts prices for FDF - Brandli

The T-Shirt prices have been set as follows: \$22 Henleys, \$18 for the "teen specialty" shirts, \$15 across the board for the rest except the kids' shirts at \$10. They will be available on line soon. Josh Micheals will process the orders and Jack Hyland will ship the shirts that are bought on line.

### Pedal Steel at the Festival - All

The board agreed that they would not prohibit it.

### David Lange and Bob Schwartz

Bob Schwartz and David Lange agreed to volunteer as the co-planning/coordinators for the Fall Campout. This campout will have the emphasis on families and encouraging some of the parents to take on some leadership roles.

Motion: To appoint David Lange and Bob Schwartz as the Fall Campout planners and coordinators.

Moved: Cornish

Second: Burns

Carried: Unanimous

### REPORTS:

### Membership Report

Carolyn's report was sent by email

### FDF Director

Darby spoke with KVMR to advise them we will be running two more stages.

### Treasurer's Report

Ed reported that the Wells Fargo fees are higher but he has checked into other banks and he feels that we're still getting the best deal from WFB. He reported that he has appealed the penalty from the IRS for late filing of the 2004 and 2005 returns. It's called an "Application for relief from penalty". There was a cover letter advising of the sudden death of our former treasurer. He will add a cover letter to the 2006 returns. He believes 2007 will be filed by the deadline and that a request for extension will not be needed.

### Area VP Reports

Area activities VP have plans to get together at the Campout.

Darby reported for Duane Campbell. John Hettinger reported on the Sacramento area activities

Craig reported on activities in his area. Craig is working toward getting Kelvin Gregory to take over, in the future, as area VP. Alan Alexander in the Santa Barbara area is already organizing activities Ed and Craig are working on him to take on the task in an official capacity.

### SET TIME AND PLACE FOR THE APRIL BOARD MEETING:

Next meeting set for 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 13 at the Spring Campout in Turlock.

### ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

### Report by Diana Donnelly, CBA Secretary





# IBMA Announces Leadership Bluegrass 2008 Graduates



The International Bluegrass Music Association is pleased to announce the graduating class of Leadership Bluegrass 2008, pictured here at BMI in Nashville on March 27. Row 1, L-R: Marty Raybon, Dana Thorin, Lucy Weberling, April Verch, Lorraine Short, Debbie Durant, Cindy Gray, Ron Cox, Tim Graves, Roger Siminoff; Row 2, L-R: Katy Daley, Rebekah Weiler, Roger Ryan, Katy E. Leonard, Bill Hartley, Mike Marceau; Row 3, L-R: Serge Bernard, Matt Lindsey, Tim McFadden, Richard Hurst, Carl Jackson, Diane King, Wayne Taylor, Ethan Burkhardt, Arnie Fleischer  
*photo: Priscilla Warnock*

The International Bluegrass Music Association is pleased to announce the graduating class of Leadership Bluegrass 2008, listed below. Leadership Bluegrass, now in its ninth year with more than 200 alumni, is an intensive three-day program of advanced level, interactive learning experiences that invites participants to examine the challenges and opportunities facing our music along with related leadership issues.

Leadership Bluegrass 2008 was hosted March 25-27 at BMI in Nashville, Tenn., and was facilitated for the ninth year by Fred Bartenstein, a noted bluegrass historian and broadcaster as well as a professional meeting facilitator.

Each year approximately 25 individuals are selected to participate in Leadership Bluegrass, a program designed to build commitment, motivate talents and instill enthusiasm for addressing the future of the bluegrass music industry. Class members represent a cross section of current and future leaders from various facets of the industry, as well as diverse regions of the country and world.

Congratulations to the following graduates:

- Serge Bernard; Diamond Productions PEI; Stratford, Prince Edward Island, Canada
- Ethan Burkhardt; Pinecastle Records; Columbus, N.C.
- Ron Cox; Avenue Bank; Nashville, Tenn.
- Katy Daley; WAMU's Blue-

grass Country; Washington, D.C.

- Debbie Durant; Brandywine Friends of Old Time Music, Delaware Valley Bluegrass Festival; Landenberg, Penn.
- Arnie Fleischer; The Emelin Theatre; Mamaroneck, N.Y.
- Tim Graves; Tim Graves & Cherokee; Northport, Ala.
- Cindy Gray; The Nevada Bluegrass Project; Reno, Nev.
- Bill Hartley; Birthplace of Country Music Alliance; Bristol, Tenn.
- Richard Hurst; Ulster American Folk Park, EBMA; Omagh, County Tyrone, Northern Ireland
- Carl Jackson; Colonel Rebel Music; Nashville, Tenn.
- Diane King, Event Producer/Songwriter; Franklin, Tenn.
- Katy E. Leonard; IBMA; Nashville, Tenn.
- Matt Lindsey; Matt Lindsey Music LLC; Nashville, Tenn.
- Michael W. Marceau; D.C. Bluegrass Union; Kensington, Md.
- Tim McFadden; Tim McFadden Management LLC; Brentwood, Tenn.
- Marty Raybon; Marty Raybon & Full Circle; Tusculumbia, Ala.
- Roger Ryan; CMA of Ireland; Cork, Ireland
- Lorraine Short; Prime Tyme Solutions; Raleigh, N.C.
- Roger H. Siminoff; Siminoff Banjo & Mandolin Parts; Arroyo Grande, Calif.
- Wayne Taylor; Raincoe Music; Crofton, Md.
- Dana Thorin; Breezy Ridge Instruments, John Pearse Strings; Scotts Valley, Calif.
- April Verch; April Verch Band, April Verch Music; Pembroke, Ontario, Canada
- Lucy Weberling; Festival Yoga/Inner Smile Productions; Skiatook, Okla.
- Rebekah Weiler; Middle Tennessee State Univ.; Murfreesboro, Tenn. (student monitor)

Thanks to the following sponsors of Leadership Bluegrass 2008: BMI, Fred Bartenstein & Associates, AWWW Enterprises (Archie & Priscilla Warnock), George & Natalie McCeney, Trisha & John Tubbs, Arthur Berman and Bill Foster.

For information on the next Leadership Bluegrass class scheduled for 2009 in Nashville, contact Nancy Cardwell at (615) 256-3222, 888-GET-IBMA or nancy@ibma.org.

## Don Rigsby & Midnight Call, Infamous Stringdusters and Bluegrass Etc. -

### Triple Headliners at Summergrass 2008

By Yvonne Tatar

Summergrass is proud to present three stellar headlining bands at this year's 2008 festival. Don Rigsby & Midnight Call, the Infamous Stringdusters, and Bluegrass Etc. will deliver a triple dose of world-class bluegrass entertainment at this year's festival happening August 22-24, 2008, at the historic Antique Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 North Santa Fe, Vista, California, 92083.

Don Rigsby, two-time Grammy nominee and two-time SPG-BMA Traditional Male Vocalist of the Year, will be headlining with his band Midnight Call at this year's Summergrass. Don worked his way through Morehead State University playing music with Charlie Sizemore, emerged onto the national scene as a member of the Bluegrass Cardinals, played with JD Crowe and the New South, and was a member of the award-winning Lonesome River Band, Longview

They also have a brand new gospel CD titled The Voice of God which due out in June and is also on the Rebel Records label. Rory Block is a special guest on this new project and the CD will include songs such as "Forgiveness", "The Voice of God", "Heaven's Bluegrass Band", and "God Done What He Said." It is an exciting time for Don Rigsby & Midnight Call.

Summergrass 2008 also proudly features the Infamous Stringdusters straight from Nashville. This hot new band represents a new generation of young bluegrass musicians. With Andy Hall on resonator guitar, Travis Book on bass, Chris Pandolfi on banjo, Jesse Cobb on mandolin, Jeremy Garrett on fiddle and Andy Falco on guitar, the band pulls together skill and experience well beyond their years. They boast a combined resume that includes collaborations with artists like Dolly Parton, Leftover Salmon, Earl Scruggs, Bering



Infamous Stringdusters

and sang on a Grammy-winning album by rocker John Fogerty.

Rigsby has released three solo albums. His first, A Vision, won the Association of Independent Music's "gospel album of the year" award and was nominated for an IBMA award. He received the 1999 Bluegrass Now Magazine Fan's Choice Award for vocal tenor of the year and the 2001 Governor's Kentucky Star Award. "Empty Old Mailbox", the title track from his third album, won the 2001 Song of the Year award from SPGBMA.

This band's first CD is titled Hillbilly Heartache and covers a wide spectrum of bluegrass from some of the top writers in the field, and is a return of sorts to the bluegrass mainstream for Don. "On The Midnight Call recording, I know I stretched the boundaries a bit, and I believe that is healthy, but I never forgot where I came from or what real bluegrass is all about.... I do love it," exclaimed Rigsby! This release marked the debut for the band on Rebel Records of Charlottesville, VA.

Strait, Ronnie Bowman and Levon Helm. Their Sugar Hill debut, Fork In The Road, was one of the most highly acclaimed bluegrass releases of 2007. It has been praised by fans of traditional bluegrass and newgrass alike, proving that the young Nashville-based band offers something for everyone.

Untangling the threads of the Infamous Stringdusters' origin is nearly impossible, thanks to the breadth of professional associations and friendships that brought its members together in various combinations. Still, a few highlights are worth noting, from the joint tenure that Andy Hall, Jeremy Garrett and Jesse Cobb shared in three time IBMA Male Vocalist of the Year Ronnie Bowman's band, The Committee, to the initial encounter between Hall and Chris Pandolfi in Boston, where Hall had graduated from the Berklee School of Music not long before Pandolfi became the first student there admitted with the banjo as his principal instrument, to the lengthy search

*Continued on A-15*



# Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival Invites CBA Kids On Bluegrass

## Free event - Saturday, May 3rd, 2008, Windsor, California

From page A-1 they simply answer "I went on the computer and just typed in 'kids bluegrass' or 'bluegrass kids' and your site was the first to come up!" Just a couple weeks ago I had another call such as this and by the end of the call I ended up with an invitation to bring some of our Kids on Bluegrass to perform at the Windsor Day Parade & Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival.

At first I received an e-mail from Randi Rembe, who it turns out is the producer and a co-sponsor of the 28th Windsor Day Parade and Festival that takes place in Windsor, California. In her e-mail she told me that she would like to have the Kids on Bluegrass come and perform for this one day festival. Having two small girls herself, Randi was VERY interested in presenting kids that play bluegrass music to this community in hopes of inspiring other kids to play. The e-mail led to phone calls and before long Randi was asking if the CBA would like to be involved. So the e-mail was sent to Darby Brandli-President of the CBA and Darby responded with a big YES! So within just a couple days the CBA and the Kids on Bluegrass stepped into another venue to spread the word.

Within a couple more days the festival, which is also sponsored

by the Windsor Chamber of Commerce and the Sonoma County Folk Society, was renamed the Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival and the California Bluegrass Association and the Kids On Bluegrass also became sponsors of this event.

A little different than the typical bluegrass festival this festival will start with a parade ending at the Windsor Town Green and throughout the day there will be numerous activities for child and adult alike. There will be over 50 booths with local artisans, a world market and food faire with beer and wine. Many activities for kids and an elaborate Coastal Valley Lines Model Railway Train display and a classic car show and even a climbing wall. Come and dance to the music of the Stiff Dead Cats, experience the eclectic styles of the Jug Dealers and the Haxaw Ditch Dwellers and then enjoy the great bluegrass sounds of our very own Ed Neff and his Blue and Lonesome band.

Our CBA Kids on Bluegrass will be represented by The Mighty Chiplings: twins David Thiessen, 13-mandolin and Marshall Thiessen, 13-banjo, Jesse Fichman, 13-guitar and Adrian Shader, 12-fiddle. These four boys gave a great performance with the Kids on Bluegrass at Fathers Day festi-



David Thiessen, Adrian Shader, Marshall Thiessen and Jesse Fichman are The Mighty Chiplings

val in 2007 and not only were they good on their instruments, their vocal harmony was wonderful as well! Jesse and his sister Alana both borrowed instruments from the Darrell Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library: Jesse a guitar and Alana a bass. Alana has been a guest performer with the group when Adrian was not available. This is an exciting young band that loves to perform. Although we love to have them represent the Kids on Bluegrass they also perform under their own band name, The Mighty Chiplings, and can be contacted at terri.thiessen@att.net.

The second band that will be representing the CBA Kids on

Bluegrass is the OMG Band, aka Obviously Minor Guys. This band consists of Nate Schwartz, 13-mandolin, Max Schwartz, 10-guitar, banjo & bass and Marty Varner, 12-mandolin & guitar and will be joined by A.J. (Aissa) Lee, 10-mandolin & banjo. Max and Nate have been performing with the Kids on Bluegrass for about three years and LOVE performing. They switch lead and harmony vocals easily and have become part of a family band with their parents. Recently they joined forces with our wild and wonderful Marty Varner and together these three boys play some hard driving, fast music. Marty has his own band called the Marty Var-

ner Band and has performed at several festivals and other venues and is often invited to play with one of his heroes the legendary Frank Wakefield as well as performing at the I.B.M.A. with the Kids on Bluegrass. Add into this mix the phenomenal voice of A.J. Lee with her mandolin and banjo and we're in for great music from some really great kids! A.J. performs locally with her mom Betsy and their band called Random Farm and has been with the KOB for many years as well as performed at the I.B.M.A. with the Kids on Bluegrass. These kids also perform under their own name. To contact the OMG band

*Continued on A-16*

Featuring an entire weekend of "Bluegrass Music, Cowboy Poetry, and Western Entertainment"

**July 25, 26, 27** Lions Park in Battle Mountain, Nevada  
Just 5 minutes off Interstate 80

Friday Night Special Guest  
**John Tyson**  
Master of Ceremony  
**Larry Maurice**

Battle

**THE MOUNTAIN**

Festival

Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket & settle in for a weekend of Bluegrass Music featuring six different bands:

**Westwind ♦ Cedar Hill ♦ Lonesome Traveler Bluegrass Band**  
**♦ Moonlight Hoodoo Revue ♦ Sawmill Road**

*Plus more acts to be announced...*

Funded in part by Nevada Commission on Tourism and Nevada Arts Council and  
The National Endowment for the Arts

40TH ANNIVERSARY

NEVADA  
arts COUNCIL

For tickets or information call (775)635-1112, e-mail bmmf-bluegrass@earthlink.net or check the website [www.battlemountain-arts.org](http://www.battlemountain-arts.org)





*Thursday & Friday:  
The Man of Constant  
Sorrow himself...*

The Dan Tyminski  
Bluegrass Band

# CBA's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Father's Day BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

June 12 - 13 - 14 & 15, 2008

at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, California

Partial Line-up includes:



Blue Highway



Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver



Crooked Still



Bradley Walker -  
IBMA's Male Vocalist of 2007



Grasstowne



The Wilders



Goldwing Express



The Doerfel Family



CBA's Kids on Bluegrass



*Plus more bands to be added!*

*Camping, Jamming, Workshops, Children's Program and much more!*

*4-Full days of Family Fun and Great Music!*

**Advance Tickets on sale now!**

**For more information, visit [www.cbaontheweb.org](http://www.cbaontheweb.org)**



**Come and join us in our 33rd 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, Luthier's  
Pavilion, Kids on Bluegrass, camping on site and the best in Bluegrass and Old  
Time Music on stage under the beautiful pine trees.**

### 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 Sunday, June 8 through Wednesday, June 11 for a fee of \$20 per unit per night (lots of grass and big pine trees), on a first-come, first-served basis. Designated tent only camping area available. Guaranteed electric only sites available - see below for fee information.
- Limited number of campsites for handicapped persons. Advance reservations required by May 1, 2008.
- Camping during the festival is included in 3 and 4 day tickets.
- 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.

### Where is the Festival Site?

The Nevada County Fairgrounds is located on McCourtney Road in the town of Grass Valley, California. From Sacramento, take Hwy. 80 east to the town of Auburn. Take the Hwy. 49 - Grass Valley exit and go north about 28 miles. There are signs on the highway directing you to the fairgrounds -- about 2 miles.

### ADVANCE TICKET ORDER FORM

#### Advance Discount Tickets (3/1/08 - 5/31/08)

##### CBA Member Tickets

4-Day Adult.....	\$105
4-Day Senior (65 & over).....	\$100
4-Day Teen (13-18).....	\$48
3-Day Adult .....	\$95
3-Day Teen .....	\$40

##### Non-Member Ticket Prices

4-Day Adult.....	\$120
4-Day Senior (65 & over).....	\$110
4-Day Teen (13-18).....	\$53
3-Day Adult.....	\$100
3-Day Teen (13-18).....	\$43

##### Single Day Tickets

No discounts available

Thursday.....	Adult \$30/Teen \$13
Friday.....	Adult \$35/Teen \$15
Saturday.....	Adult \$40/Teen \$18
Sunday.....	Adult \$30/Teen \$13

#### GATE TICKET PRICES

4-Day Adult	\$130
4-Day Teen (13-18)	\$60
3-Day Adult	\$100
3-Day Teen (13-18)	\$45

Children 12 & Under FREE with a paid adult admission.

NO MEMBER DISCOUNTS  
ON GATE TICKETS.

**Camping is included in all 3 and 4 day tickets. Early camping opens Sunday, June 8. Camping fees are \$20 per night per unit (RVs), \$15 per night per unit (tents) on a first come, first-served basis from Sunday, June 8 through Wednesday, June 11.**

**Designated tent camping area available.**

**Special campsites with guaranteed electricity spaces @\$90 each with advance reservations (Monday thru Sunday).**

**Handicapped campers who need special accommodations must make advance reservations by May 1, 2008. Please call JohnSkaar at 509-427-8928 or e-mail: johnskaar@saw.net for information and reservations.**

Please send me the following Early Bird Discount tickets to the CBA's 33rd Annual Father's Day Weekend Bluegrass Festival:

#### CBA Member Tickets

4-Day Adult @ \$105	_____
4-Day Senior @ \$100	_____
4-Day Teen (13-18) @ \$48	_____
3-Day Adult (Th/Fri/Sat) @ \$95*	_____
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Th/Fri/Sat) @ \$40*	_____
3-Day Adult (Fri/Sat/Sun) @ \$95*	_____
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Fri/Sat/Sun) @ \$40*	_____

#### Non-Member Tickets

4-Day Adult @ \$120	_____
4-Day Senior @ \$110	_____
4-Day Teen @ \$53	_____
3-Day Adult (Th/Fri/Sat) @ \$100*	_____
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Th/Fri/Sat) @ \$43*	_____
3-Day Adult (Fri/Sat/Sun) @ \$100*	_____
3-Day Teen (13-18) (Fri/Sat/Sun) @ \$43*	_____

\*Please specify which 3 days

#### Single Day Tickets

Thursday Only @ \$30	_____	Teen @ \$13	_____
Friday Only @ \$35	_____	Teen @ \$15	_____
Saturday Only @ \$40	_____	Teen @ \$20	_____
Sunday Only @ \$30	_____	Teen @ \$13	_____

Music Camp Discount (4-day passes only): subtract \$10. Music Camp registration code (required): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Advance Ticket Order Form -- Deadline 5/31/08**

#### Camping Reservations:

_____ nights Pre-festival tent camping @ \$15 per night (first-come, first-served) for a total of \$ _____
_____ nights Pre-festival RV camping @ \$20 per night (first-come, first-served) for a total of \$ _____
_____ Reserved space with guaranteed electricity @ \$90 per space. (6/8/08 - 6/15/08)

CBA Member No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Order \_\_\_\_\_

**Total for Tickets** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total for Camping** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail ticket order form, a SELF AD-DRESSED, STAMPED BUSINESS-SIZED ENVELOPE, and check or money order payable to the California Bluegrass Association (CBA) to:

**CBA Festival Tickets  
John Erwin  
2172 Vineyard Hills Ct  
Vacaville, CA 95688-8732**



Announcing the 8th Annual



# MUSIC CAMP

For students of Bluegrass and Old-Time Music

June 8-11, 2008

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 or singing in a group situation. Music Camp coordinator Ingrid Noyes has lined up an outstanding staff of instructors.



2008 Instructors are:

•Banjo (Bluegrass) Jason Burleson, Bill Evans, Nick Hornbuckle •Banjo (Old-time) Tom Sauber, Steve Baughman

•Bass -- Lisa Burns, Trisha Gagnon •Dobro -- Rob Ickes, Ivan Rosenberg

•Fiddle -- Megan Lynch, Jack Tuttle, Heidi Clare

•Guitar -- Tim Stafford, Jim Nunally, Dix Bruce

•Mandolin -- John Reischman, Alan Bibey, Butch Waller •Vocals -- Keith Little, Carol McComb

You'll also enjoy: •Group practice and jams •Elective classes •Student concert •Staff concert •Dancing

•Delicious meals •Camping onsite or nearby lodging available

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

Got kids? Ask about our new morning class for young pre-musicians! (or see website for more info)



## CBA MUSIC CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

Yes! Sign me up—

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell or work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Age if under 18 \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: check one, or indicate 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice, for morning classes

See instructor's page of website, or contact us, for information on each class and instructor.

- ☐ banjo, level 1
- ☐ banjo, level 2
- ☐ banjo, level 3
- ☐ banjo, oldtime - level 1
- ☐ banjo, oldtime - level 2
- ☐ bass, level 1
- ☐ bass, level 2
- ☐ dobro, level 1
- ☐ dobro, level 2
- ☐ fiddle, level 1
- ☐ fiddle, bluegrass - level 2

- ☐ fiddle, oldtime - level 2
- ☐ guitar, level 1
- ☐ guitar, level 2 (rhythm)
- ☐ guitar, level 3 (flatpicking)
- ☐ mandolin, level 1
- ☐ mandolin, Monroe-style - level 2
- ☐ mandolin, bluegrass - level 3
- ☐ vocals - level 1
- ☐ vocals - level 2

### Cost of the camp:

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Postmarked by May 1st—\$270 (sign up early!)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ After May 1st—\$305
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Meals (optional)—\$80 (Sun. dinner thru Wed. lunch)
- Check here for vegetarian meals \_\_\_\_\_
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Tent or car camping (optional)—\$25 per adult, tents \$60 per site, RVs
- \$90 per site, RVs with electrical for the entire week - call first for availability

**No pets are allowed in the fairgrounds. Contact us for boarding info.**

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Camp T-shirt-- \$15.00 Circle size: S M L XL
- Circle style: Mens' gray OR Ladies' aqua
- The T-shirt design can be seen at our website.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to scholarship fund (optional—help a low-income camper come to camp)
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment fee for your child (or sibling) for the morning hours young campers program - \$50 per child
- Child's name(s)/ age(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed  
Make checks payable to **CBA Music Camp**.  
To register: Send this form, filled out, with payment, to:  
**CBA Music Camp**  
PO Box 840  
Marshall, CA 94940

Scholarships available — call for information

Questions? Contact Ingrid Noyes at 415-663-1342 (after 9am); e-mail: [info@cbamusiccamp.org](mailto:info@cbamusiccamp.org) or check our website: [www.cbamusiccamp.org](http://www.cbamusiccamp.org).  
For information on hotels, motels and bed and breakfast inns in the Grass Valley area, call 530-273-2565 or web site: [www.gvncchamber.org](http://www.gvncchamber.org)



# CBA Music Camp Update - Wednesday night at Vern's at Grass Valley

By Ingrid Noyes

On Wednesday, June 11th, as the CBA Music Camp draws to a close and the Father's Day festival is about to begin, there will be a special event at the stage we call Vern's, free and open to music campers and festival attendees both.

It starts with Angelica Grim and her band High Action, who will play a set from 6:00 to 7:00. The beer garden will be open, and dinner will be available from Road Dog Catering. Angelica is one of those special people who has grown up with the CBA, and from an early age showed great promise as a musician and a singer. Now fronting her own band, she's backed up by TJ and Eddie Doerfel, and with her great singing and sparkling personality, this will surely be a fine way to kick off the festival.

The next portion of the evening is co-sponsored by Scott

Tichenor of Mando Cafe, and features John Reischman and the Jaybirds, with guests Paul Shelasky on fiddle and Butch Waller on mandolin. There will be one hour of workshops from 7:00 to 8:00, with John and Butch on stage with a workshop featuring Monroe style mandolin tunes and technique, and other members of the band giving workshops nearby on their respective instruments—Trisha Gagnon on bass, Nick Hornbuckle on banjo, Jim Nunally on guitar, and Paul Shelasky on fiddle. Then at 8:00, they will regroup to play a set on stage, which also will feature Monroe tunes and songs. Surely there will be some amazing twin mandolin playing in this set, and it's an exciting combination of musicians that you don't get to see every day. Special thanks to Scott Tichenor and Mando Cafe for sponsorship of this event—hope you can be

there!

Closing out the evening from 9:30 to 10:30 will be Sid Lewis, doing his last Jamming 101 workshop for the week, also open to anyone who wants to attend. Sid will work his magic, getting everyone to play and have fun, no matter what instrument you play, or how well you play it. Whether winding down from music camp, or just getting into the spirit of the festival, (or both!), Sid is sure to get everyone in the right mood, having fun jamming together.

This is our third year of Wednesday night events at Grass Valley, and our first year of presenting it at Vern's, and it's likely to be a fine evening—don't miss it!

Other news from CBA Music Camp: as we go to press,

camp is very nearly full, with just a few spaces open in level 1 banjo, both oldtime and bluegrass. Other spaces may open up if there are cancellations, but would-be campers are advised to call for availability before sending in registration.

There's been one change in personnel at the music camp—Tom Sauber, who was slated to teach the level 2 oldtime banjo class, had to cancel, and is being replaced by Brad Leftwich. Brad

has taught at camp twice before, always gets rave reviews from his students, and though we're sorry to lose Tom, we're delighted to have Brad back.

For more information on the music camp, see our website at [www.cbamusiccamp.org](http://www.cbamusiccamp.org), e-mail [info@cbamusiccamp.org](mailto:info@cbamusiccamp.org) or call director Ingrid Noyes at 415-663-1342.

Hope to see you in June!



John Reischman and the Jaybirds  
perform Wednesday night at CBA Music Camp

## MANDOLINCAFE

[www.mandolincafe.com](http://www.mandolincafe.com)

## Flatpicking Guitar Magazine

**Flatpicking  
Guitar  
Magazine**

**The complete  
Bluegrass Guitar  
Resource**



**Flatpicking Guitar Magazine** is the complete resource for the flatpicking guitarists. Each issue includes interviews with top performers and guitar builders, reviews of instructional material, new CDs, and guitar accessories, and technical articles and tablature covering a wide range of acoustic guitar topics, including: guitar set-up and maintenance, flatpicking fiddle tunes, rhythm guitar, crosspicking, playing up-the-neck, solos to vocal songs, learning improvisation, guitar duets, music theory, jam session favorites, and much more!

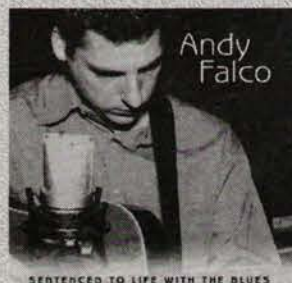
Call 800-413-8296

*A 68-minute Instructional CD Available for Every Issue!*

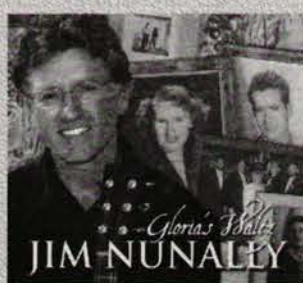
[www.flatpick.com](http://www.flatpick.com)

To Recieve a Free Sample Copy of Flatpicking Guitar Magazine, visit [www.flatpick.com](http://www.flatpick.com)

## FGM Records Presents Great Flatpicking CDs:



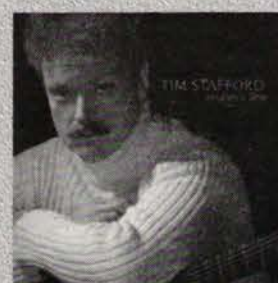
Andy Falco



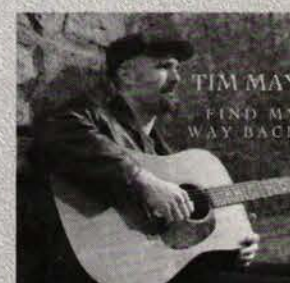
Tyler Grant



Mark Cosgrove



Tim Stafford



Tim May

[www.flatpickingmercantile.com](http://www.flatpickingmercantile.com)

[www.fgmrecords.com](http://www.fgmrecords.com)

[www.flatpick.com](http://www.flatpick.com)

800-413-8296



## Main Stage

## Vern's

## Pine Tree Stage

## Thursday, June 12th

Emcee Rick Cornish  
 9:45 - 10:00 am Opening Comments  
 10:00 - 10:50 am Crooked Still  
 11:00 - 11:50 am Chris Jones and  
 Ivan Rosenberg  
 12:00 - 12:50 pm The Wilders  
 12:50 - 3:00 pm Lunch & Workshops  
 Emcee Dave Gooding  
 3:00 - 3:50 pm Sidesaddle & Co.  
 4:00 - 4:50 pm All Star Music Camp  
 Instructors Band  
 5:00 - 5:50 pm Crooked Still  
 5:50 - 7:40 pm Dinner & Workshops  
 Emcee Chris Jones  
 7:40 - 8:30 pm Blue Highway  
 8:40 - 9:30 pm The Wilders  
 9:40 - 10:50 pm Dan Tyminski Band

## Friday, June 13th

Emcee Angelica Grim  
 & Paige Anderson  
 10:00 - 10:50 am The Doerfel Family  
 11:00 - 11:50 am Belle Monroe &  
 Her Brewglass Boys  
 12:00 - 12:50 pm BladeRunners  
 12:50 - 3:00 pm Lunch & Workshops  
 Emcee Cuzin Al Knoth  
 3:00 - 3:50 pm Blue Highway  
 4:00 - 4:50 pm The Wilders  
 5:00 - 5:50 pm Kids on Bluegrass  
 5:50 - 7:10 pm Dinner & Workshops  
 Emcee Chuck Poling  
 7:10 - 8:00 pm Crooked Still  
 8:10 - 9:20 pm Dan Tyminski Band  
 9:30 - 10:50 pm Blue Highway

## Saturday, June 14th

Emcee John Senior  
 10:00 - 10:50 am Goldwing Express  
 11:00 - 11:50 am Natural Drift  
 12:00 - 12:50 pm The Doerfel Family  
 12:50 - 3:00 pm Lunch & Workshops  
 Emcee Ray Edlund  
 3:00 - 3:50 pm Grasstowne  
 4:00 - 4:50 pm Diana Donnelly &  
 The Yes Ma'ams  
 5:00 - 5:50 pm Kids on Bluegrass  
 5:50 - 7:10 pm Dinner & Workshops  
 Emcee J.D. Rhynes  
 7:10 - 8:00 pm Goldwing Express  
 8:00 - 8:20 pm Board Intro and  
 Award Presentations  
 8:30 - 9:20 pm Bradley Walker  
 9:30 - 10:50 pm Doyle Lawson  
 and Quicksilver

## Sunday, June 15th

Gospel Show  
 Emcee Darby Brandli  
 10:00 - 10:50 am Grasstowne  
 11:00 - 11:50 am Doyle Lawson  
 and Quicksilver  
 12:00 - 12:50 pm Goldwing Express  
 12:50 - 2:00 pm Lunch & Workshops  
 Emcee J.D. Rhynes  
 2:00 - 2:50 pm Mt. Diablo String Band  
 3:00 - 3:50 pm Doyle Lawson  
 and Quicksilver  
 4:00 - 4:50 pm Bradley Walker

Vern's will be back again this year  
 serving up beer, wine, and great  
 bluegrass music.

12:50 - 1:20 pm Kitchen Help  
 1:25 - 2:05 pm Notorious Shank Bros  
 2:10 - 3:00 pm Keith Little & Jim Nunally

5:50 - 6:40 pm The Grass Less Traveled  
 6:45 - 7:40 pm Hamilton County  
 Bluegrass Band

Plus a special  
 Weds night show with  
 John Reischman & The Jaybirds  
 Angelica Grim & High Action

12:50 - 1:20 pm Jeanie and Chuck Poling  
 1:25 - 2:05 pm Dalton Mountain Gang  
 2:10 - 3:00 pm Angelica Grim & High Action

5:50 - 6:40 pm Bill Evans & Megan Lynch  
 6:45 - 7:10 pm Blue & Lonesome



12:50 - 1:50 pm 49 Special  
 1:55 - 3:00 pm The Alhambra Valley Band

Saturday night finale @ Vern's!  
 Two generations of the Williams Family  
 carrying on the tradition

5:50 - 6:40 pm RoseBud Blue  
 6:45 - 7:10 pm The Del Williams Band



The Pine Tree Stage is the site of  
 the new MEGA Workshops and the  
 kid's program.

1:00 - 1:55 pm Megan Lynch, Tristan  
 and Tashina Clarridge  
 2:00 - 2:55 pm The Wilders



1:00 - 1:55 pm Crooked Still  
 2:00 - 2:55 pm Goldwing Express

See full workshop schedule and  
 descriptions plus a complete map  
 on the opposite page!

Be sure to visit the luthier's pavilion  
 to see the latest instruments from  
 the finest builders.

1:00 - 1:55 pm Grasstowne  
 2:00 - 2:55 pm Doyle Lawson  
 and Quicksilver

Special thanks to all of our  
 sponsors including:

Saga Music  
 Gryphon Stringed Instruments  
 Martin  
 Deering  
 5th String Berkeley  
 5th String Sacramento  
 Sierra Nevada Brewery  
 Guglielmo Winery

8:00 - 9:00 am Chapel Service  
 hosted by Jan and  
 LeRoy McNees

33rd Annual June 12-15, 2008

**FESTIVAL  
 SCHEDULE**



**Thursday June 12, 2008****Mega Workshops at the Pine Tree Stage**

1:00 - 1:55pm - Fiddle Championships to Bluegrass Breakdowns - Megan Lynch, Tristan and Toshina Clarridge

2:00 - 2:55pm - Getting Wild with The Wilders

**Dinner Workshops 6:00 - 7:30 pm**

Area C - Guitar - Chris Jones

**Friday June 13, 2008****Mega Workshops at the Pine Tree Stage**

1:00 - 1:55pm - Turning Oldies into Newbies - Crooked Still

2:00 - 2:55pm - The Lighter Side of Bluegrass - Goldwing Express

**Lunch Workshops 1:00 - 2:50 pm**

Area C - Fiddle - Betse Ellis - The Wilders

Area D - Playing by Ear for Newbies and Tab Addicts - Luke Abbott

Area E - How The Doerfel Family Makes It Work - Doerfel Family

Area G - Autoharp Bluegrass Connection - Grandma Fuey Herring

Area H - How a Banjo Works - Montie Hendricks

**Dinner Workshops 6:00 - 7:00 pm**

Area B - Arranging a Bluegrass Tune - Belle Monroe

Area C - Clawhammer Banjo - Carl Pagter

Area D - Playing by Ear for Newbies and Tab Addicts - Luke Abbott

Area E - Banjo - TJ Doerfel of the Doerfel Family

Area G - Banjo - Greg Deering of Deering Banjos

Area H - Guitar Setup - Michael Lewis

**Saturday June 14, 2008****Mega Workshops at the Pine Tree Stage**

1:00 - 1:55pm - Hatching a Headliner Band - Grasstowne

2:00 - 2:55pm - Getting the Vocal Sound - Doyle Lawson & QS

**Lunch Workshops 1:00 - 2:50 pm**

Area C - Old Time Fiddle - Carl Pagter & Harry Liedstrand

Area E - Backup Banjo - Dave Magram - Sidesaddle

Area F - Recording Studio Topics - Joe Weed

Area G - Autoharp Tips & Tricks for Bluegrass - Gma Fuey Herring

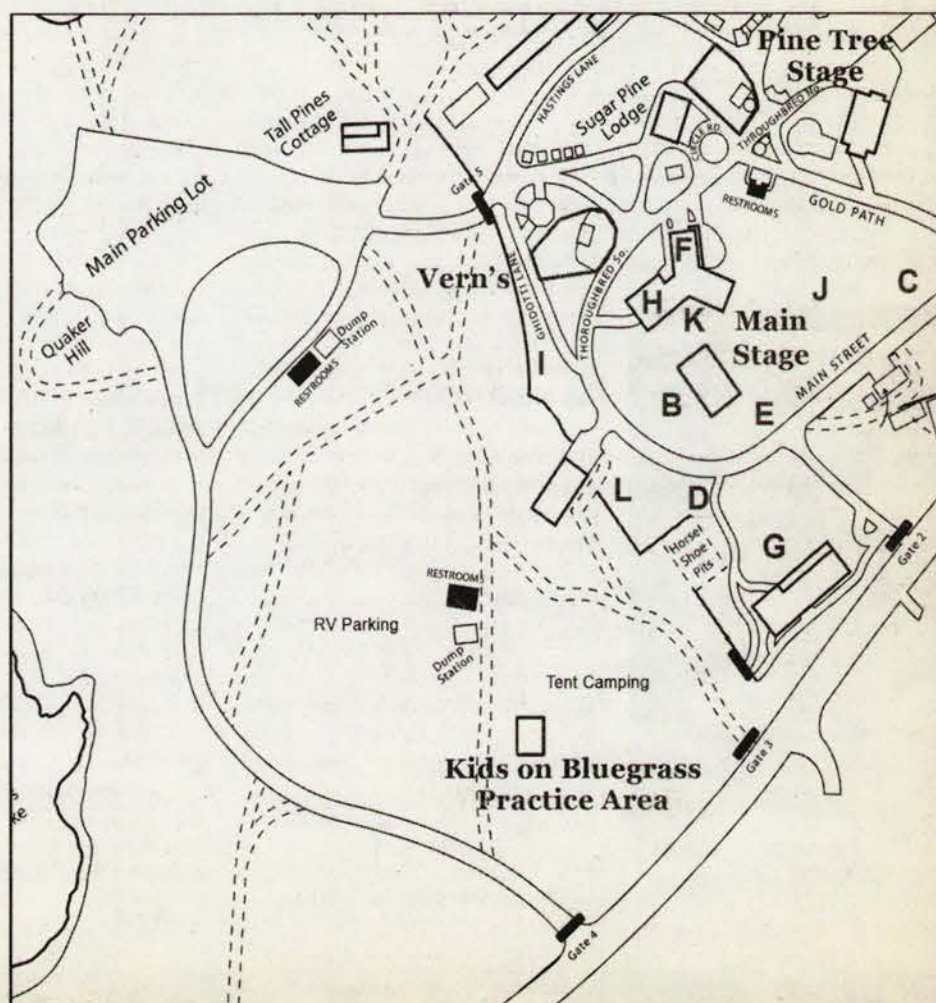
Area H - Mandolin Setup - Michael Lewis

**Dinner Workshops 6:00 - 7:00 pm**

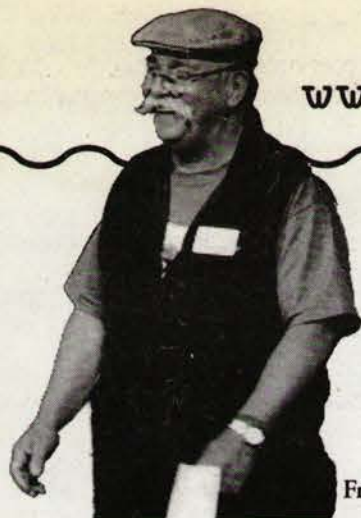
Area H - Advanced Banjo Setup Topics - Montie Hendricks

**Sunday, June 15, 2008****Lunch Workshops 1:00 - 1:50 pm**

Area F - Recording Studio Field Work and Old Songs - Joe Weed

**Stage Map / Workshop Locations**

[www.kidsonbluegrass.com](http://www.kidsonbluegrass.com)



Frank Solivan, Sr.

## Do you have a child who would like to participate in the Kids on Bluegrass Program?

Currently the Kids on Bluegrass program, under the direction of Frank Solivan, Sr., takes place at the CBA Supergrass Bluegrass Festival in Bakersfield, Calif., the CBA Fathers Day Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, California and under the title of Kids on Stage also at Larry and Sondra Bakers "Bluegrass in the Foothills" festival in Plymouth, California.

Frank Solivan, Sr. has been directing this program for approximately 16 years and he and his kids consistently delight audiences with high quality and highly talented young people.

This program is open to children ages 3 to 18. The children must be able to sing and/or play their instrument WITHOUT parents or guardians help. Songs MUST be completely memorized (again without help). Children must have good enough understanding of their instrument to have good timing, know their chords and be able to change chords quickly, easily play 2 or three songs and the ability to play in a group.

Rehearsal takes place many hours during the day for several days at each festival and culminates in a stage production on the main stage at each festival. Parents and children must be ready to commit to all of the rehearsals.

To find out if your child is ready to participate in this wonderful program, visit Frank Solivan, Sr. at his campsite at any one of these festivals.

## Attention Bluegrass Quilters (and Wannabees)

By Donna Quartier

During Grass Valley week, on Tuesday, June 10th, we will have a workshop for quilters from 5:50 to 10pm. We get to use the big room in the building across from Roaddog Tri Tip stand. It's where the Volunteer dinner is served.

We've done this for several years now, and all who participate have had a good time. You can work on your own projects or learn something new, your choice.

This year I'll be teaching a new block. It's really pretty and much easier than it looks. (My favorite thing, something that looks hard and isn't, everyone thinks you're a genius.) If you have internet access, go to Connecting Threads website and click on patterns and then Free patterns. Scroll down to the 4th row to find "Lavender Orchids". Make yourself a copy or get one from me at the class.

If you want to make a small wall hanging, I suggest you bring at least 3/4 yard of each fabric. But don't expect to finish this during the session.

To make two 9" sample blocks, you'll need:

A. Focus Fabric for center of square (on point) large floral is recommended.

Cut 2 squares @ 4 7/8"

B. Dark medium fabric (frame for the center square)

Cut 4 @ 1 1/2" X 6 7/8"

Cut 4 @ 1 1/2" X 4 7/8"

C. Light fabric

Cut 1 8" square

Cut 4 ea 2 3/4" squares

D. Dark fabric

Cut 1 8" square

Cut 4 ea 2 3/4" squares

Bring along:

Water to drink, (also snacks to share are good, e.g.: chocolate) a sewing machine, power cord & strips, lamps (lighting is poor) a rotary cutter, cutting mat, rulers, ironing pads/boards and iron. A 9" square ruler if you have one (not really a necessity). Just bring whatever you usually use, even the kitchen sink, lol.

Remember, we don't get graded on our projects, this is a fun group, so be prepared to laugh at each other, and yourselves. Don't forget to bring show and tell, and anything quilt related that you want to get rid of, we'll have a table set up for that, (books included).

To find me at Grass Valley, look for the Bluegrass Quilters sign on our rig. It is a white w/green 34' Monaco La Palma. We try to park near the intersection by the big paved parking lot, east end.

Questions? call or email Donna Q at [donnaqz@mac.com](mailto:donnaqz@mac.com) or call (916)203-7940 cell



# The Luthiers Pavilion FDF, Grass Valley 2008

By Monte Hendricks

It's an old word. It is an interesting word. It's a fun word. Luthier. For over 34 years now I've been using it to fill in the "occupation" space on my 1040 form. By doing this I am being honest but it does



Michael Lewis: find him at FDF '08 Luthiers Pavilion

offer me an opportunity to have some much needed fun at tax time. You see, I figure I have a fifty fifty chance the person checking my return will just think I miss spelled "Lutheran" and spend a little extra time checking my math. I also figure maybe a good portion of the other 50 percent might go to their dictionary and look it up. It is not in mine; check yours. Some of you are probably thinking that this is kind of a twisted way of having fun and throwing up an unnecessary red flag in front of an IRS agent. A very good point but think about the alternative I have to fill that occupation space with - Banjo Maker!

So what in the world is a luthier? It's a French word and its root is the word "lute", an older European stringed musical instrument. A luthier is a builder and repairer of stringed musical instruments and every Fathers Day Bluegrass Festival the CBA has a whole pavilion full of them! Packed full of them. Luthiers come in all shapes and sizes and disciplines. There are

luthiers that build guitars, banjos, mandolins, fiddles, and basses. There are even a few lesser known instruments that are fun to see and learn about.

The Luthier Pavilion has become one of the focal points of the festival. Be sure and stop by and take a look at and try out the great handmade instruments and meet and talk with the fine people who have chosen to be luthiers. I guarantee you it's an interesting group. It is also a great opportunity to stop by and have your instruments checked out as to set up and need for repair. Several of the builders also present scheduled workshops on building, care, and set up. There is a wealth of knowledge, information, and fun all under one roof. Take advantage of this unique opportunity.

In next month's "Breakdown" I will tell you a little about each of the luthiers that will be in the pavilion this year. I'm curious myself as to whether there may be an "archetier" on the list. I'll be checking it out!

# Doubleheader- Bluegrass Gold in Larkspur

The May edition of the Bluegrass Gold series at Sweetwater Station in Larkspur at 8 p.m. on the 8th will feature a twin bill of The Roadoilers and The Barefoot Nel-

lies. This will also be a North Bay CD release party for the Nellies.

Marin County's one and only good-time old-time band The Roadoilers play square dance and



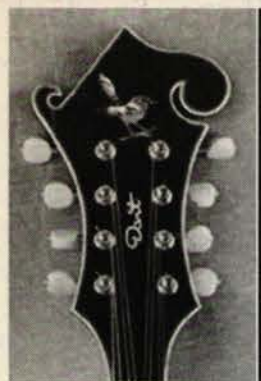
The Barefoot Nellies will perform with the Roadoilers

photo: Mike Melnyk

contra dance music, traditional country singing, ragtime, and Irish traditional music. Fiddles, banjos, guitars, bass and bagpipes are the instruments that make up the band. The season Oilers - John Pedersen banjo and pipes, Perry Fly on guitar, Chuck Wiley on bass and Mike Drayton on fiddle - have played together in various combinations for over 25 years, forming this group several years ago. Taken together, the band has over 160 years of experience playing old-time and bluegrass music. Their CD from last year was simply called The Roadoilers, and they will still be releasing them at this show.

The Bay Area's finest all-gal bluegrass band, The Barefoot Nellies, blend driving, high lonesome vocals, soaring sister duo and trio harmonies, and tasteful picking inspired by traditional bluegrass musicians like Flatt & Scruggs, Jimmy Martin, Bill Monroe, and the Stanley Brothers. Although firmly rooted in the traditional sounds, the Nellies subtly bring together their diverse musical influences, from Balkan singing to Texas fiddling and hot swing to honky-tonk, bringing a drive and energy to their playing that takes them far beyond the "girl group" label. On this show they will be celebrating the release of their new CD titled Let Me Down Easy. The members are Jess Beebe on bass, Nicole Solis on mandolin, Erika Walther on guitar, Prentiss Sellers on banjo, and Betsy Maudlin on fiddle. Sweetwater Station is Marin County's premier nightclub as well as the home for bluegrass music in the North Bay. For more information call the club at (415) 924-6107, or go to [www.sweetwaterstation.net](http://www.sweetwaterstation.net).

## CALIFORNIA LUTHIERS



**Dart Instruments**  
finest custom instruments since 1966

David L. Dart, luthier

Specializing in  
Mandolin Family Instruments  
and Acoustic Slide Guitars

707 895-2493  
[www.luthier.com](http://www.luthier.com)  
[david@luthier.com](mailto:david@luthier.com)



Arnie Gamble

Fine Handmade Guitars  
Repair and Restoration  
Fret Jobs • Neck Sets  
Action Adjustments

Authorized C.F. Martin Repair Service

Serving Musicians since 1978

(916) 448-8339  
Sacramento

[www.arniegamble.com](http://www.arniegamble.com)

**Wildwood Music**

Instruments & Electronics, Books & Videos  
Strings & Accessories, Buy, Sell, Trade

Taylor

Martin

Wildwood Banjos

1027 1st. Arcata 822-6264 Mon-Sat 10:30-5:30 Sun Noon-4

MICHAEL A LEWIS

Archtop Guitars  
Mandolins

Fine Guitars and Mandolins

C.F. Martin  
Service Center  
(530) 272-4124

20807 E. Spring Ranches Rd.  
Grass Valley, CA 95949 USA  
E-mail: [malewis@nccn.net](mailto:malewis@nccn.net)



[thestringbass.com](http://thestringbass.com)

Offering String basses by:

Christopher's Workshop

Eastman Strings

Xuechang Sun

Seaver

luthier (since 1967)

Guitars and Fiddles  
by the hands of Bruce Seaver

707-782-1044

724 H Street Petaluma, CA 94952



builders of Hendricks banjos

Hendricks  
Banjos

P.O. Box 1197  
Pollock Pines, CA 95726  
(530) 644-6891

repair, restoration, custom work



# Don Rigsby & Midnight Call, Infamous Stringdusters and Bluegrass Etc. - Triple Headliners at Summergrass 2008

From page A-6 that resulted in Colorado jamgrass mainstay Travis Book's joining the band, and the old friendships that led them to Andy Falco. Indeed, the six musicians' resumes cut a swath across the bluegrass mainstream — and beyond.

In October 2007, The Infamous Stringdusters won 3 IBMA awards including Album of the Year, Song of the Year and Emerging Artist at the IBMA Awards Ceremony October 4th at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, becoming the first band in the History of the IBMA awards to win these three coveted awards in one year. The IS swept up awards in every category they were nominated in, an unlikely feat for a band that was only a concept two years ago. "We are surprised and honored to be recognized by our peers," Travis said in a post show interview on XM Radio. News flash! - Their new record, titled The Infamous Stringdusters is now being mastered, and will be out on Sugar Hill Records June 10th. And the 'Dusters will have them for sale at Summergrass!

A real "bona fide" Summergrass favorite, Bluegrass Etc. returns to the stage again this year. Their hard hitting show of instrumental expertise, vocal precision and stage personality that never fails to entertain. The group is well known internationally and tours more than eighteen countries per year, performing more than 200 shows annually at festivals and in concert. Bluegrass Etc. consists of John Moore (mandolin, guitar, vocals), Dennis Caplinger (banjo, fiddle, vocals), and Bill Bryson (bass, vocals).

Multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Dennis Caplinger is one of the most sought after studio musicians in California and often travels to Nashville, Tennessee to do sessions. He recently received a Grammy for his contribution on the J.J. Cale and Eric Clapton CD titled Road to Escondido. He is currently under contract with Network Productions of San Diego, Ca. recording numerous television and radio commercials as well as writing and recording music for their extensive music library.

John Moore's musical performances have led him throughout the U.S. and Canada, Europe and Japan, as well as in to the studio doing sessions for other artists. He does radio and television commercials, and movie soundtracks. He recently recorded a Grammy nominated album with Byron Berline, Vince Gill, Bill Bryson, Dennis Caplinger, Rick Cunha and Jann Browne, and another with Mike Oldfield of "Tubular Bells" fame. Bill Bryson, legendary bass player, has been held in high esteem for the last 30 years. He was a founding member of the Desert Rose Band and the Laurel Canyon Ramblers. He has also toured extensively with Dan Fogelberg, Chris

Hillman, Bernie Leadon and the Bluegrass Cardinals. Bill has recorded with Merle Haggard and Buck Owens, to name a few. He has won two Grammys and has been nominated numerous times for the Academy of Country Music's Bass Player of the Year Award. His credits also include numerous

movie soundtracks, television and radio commercials.

Summergrass 2008 is also proud to present Sawmill Road, Chris Stuart & Backcountry, the Burnett Family, Pacific Ocean Bluegrass, Lighthouse, Virtual Strangers, Highway 76, Super Strings, and the Grateful Hooli-

gans. The ever-popular instrument raffle returns again this year, along with our Kids Camp for kids age 6 to 16, music workshops by the professionals, family and kids activities, our vendor village, and on site camping and jamming. Fun, Fun, Fun! And all at very affordable prices.

For advance tickets, camping, Kids Camp, and all the latest Summergrass updates, please visit [www.summergrass.net](http://www.summergrass.net) or call 858-679-4854. Don't miss this very special year of bluegrass music fun and festivities!

Summergrass — a San Diego bluegrass tradition for a reason!

Sponsored by BMSCC — The Bluegrass Music Society of the Central Coast

## PARKFIELD Bluegrass Festival MOTHERS DAY WEEKEND May 8 through 11, 2008



featuring  
**THE JAMES KING BAND**

Also Junior Sisk & Ramblers Choice  
Eric Uglum & Sons, The Del Williams Band,  
Leroy Mack & the Bluegrass Gospel Band,  
The Virtual Strangers, Bean Creek, Baloney Creek,  
Smiley Mountain, Better Late Than Never,  
Southside, Wild River Ramblers

4 days of Bluegrass music & jamming! With Sunday Gospel Program, Music workshops,  
Kids Bluegrass Music Camp & Sunday Stage Show, Kids Crafts & Storytelling,  
and a very special gift for the Moms on Mothers Day!

Shady, grassy audience area — bring your chairs — Comfort facilities nearby. Many wonderful vendors &  
Good eats at the Parkfield Café — Lots of boondock RV spaces — Limited qty of electrical hookups  
(call for fee & availability info) — Tent camping on grass — Campfires & BBQ's & Dogs OK.  
See Website for map to Parkfield (located halfway between SF & LA & between Hwy 101 & Interstate 5)

For complete info & tickets, see the Website:

[www.parkfieldbluegrass.com](http://www.parkfieldbluegrass.com)

Or call: (805) 725-3060

### FESTIVAL TICKETS:

#### Adults (age 18-59)

4-day, Thurs-Sun	\$70 Adv.	\$80 Gate
3-day, Fri-Sun	\$60 Adv.	\$75 Gate
Single Day: Thu	\$15	Fri \$25 Sat \$30 Sun \$20
Seniors (age 60 & up)	\$5 off Adult price.	
Kids & Teens (age 19 & under)	Free	

(Festival information subject to change.)

## Parkfield Rocks!

### CAMPING FEE (per unit = RV, camper, tent)

4-day, Thurs-Sun	\$25	3-day, Fri-Sun	\$20
Single Night:	\$8	Pre-Festival Night	\$12

MAIL ORDER TICKETS: Checks payable to BMSCC, PO Box 322, Grover Beach, CA 93483. Please include a #10 stamped self-addressed envelope for confirmation materials.  
ADVANCE TICKET DEADLINE April 15, 2008  
After April 15th, tickets will be at the Gate rate.



# J.D.'s Bluegrass Kitchen by J.D. Rhynes

Howdy, Howdy, Howdy!

The older we get, the faster the time flies! Here it is deadline time for my column again! When I was a young man, it seemed like the days jes crawled by, but now the years are zipping by like a teenager on a turbocharged crotch rocket motorcycle! As I write May's column, it is the very last day of March, and yesterday was cold, cloudy and windy here on my mountain. But, spring has sprung here in the mountains of my beloved Calaveras County, and the grass is getting taller every day in the meadows and the wild flowers will soon be painting them with their patchwork of bright colors. There is nothing as pretty as a green hillside covered with Golden Poppy's in the spring! Well, maybe a vintage Martin Herringbone D-28 would fall into that category. Ronnie Reno's 1932 version comes to mind when I think of vintage Martins. And speaking of the number 32, that's the number of this year's Father's Day Festival! Jeez! Looking back in time, I was only 38 years old when we had our first one in 1976! It's hard for me to believe that I turned 70 this March. That's okay with me though, 'cause when you stop having birthdays, you STOP everything! That includes breathing, listening to, and playing music, and eatin' good vittles, which I am especially good at! And fixin' and eatin' good vittles is what this column is all about. So, tie yer pony in the shade of the ol Oak tree out back, and come on into the kitchen here, where's we can make "medicine" over some good vittles.

Living in the Golden State as we do, we have the very best of fresh produce in the whole world. You know it's spring when you see the fresh asparagus flooding the produce section of every supermarket. This time every year, I am reminded of my 'ol pickin' buddy, Ray Park. One time we were all gathered at Vern's house in the dead of winter, playing music, and eatin' some good vittles. Ray mentioned the fact that he was craving him some

fresh asparagus, and by jings, when spring gets here and it starts growing, I jes might get in the middle of a big patch of it with a salt and pepper shaker, and eat my way to the road! I can still see Vern laughing, and from that time on, come springtime Vern would ask me: Ya reckon Ray's found him a patch of asparagus yet? Great memories of a wonderful time.

I'm like Ray when it comes to fresh asparagus: I purely love it. When it's cooked right, there's nothing that can compare to it, and I don't know of anyone who doesn't like it! My good friend Ron Del Carlo raises a lot of it in the Delta, and he showed me how to cook it properly too. Here's how to cook it. Put a big pot of salted water on to boil. While the waters heating up, wash and snap the asparagus to length. When the water starts boiling, put the asparagus into the pot. Watch that pot like a Chicken Hawk watches a hen house, and as SOON as the water starts boiling again, it's done. Dump the asparagus into a colander, and that's it! Now, you can put any kind of sauce, dressing, etc. on it, and serve. One of my very favorite sauces to serve with asparagus is a good smooth cream sauce, so here's how it's did.

## Fresh Asparagus with Cream Sauce

2 lbs. of fresh asparagus  
1/4 cup of butter  
1/4 cup of flour  
3/4 cup of milk  
3/4 cup of half and half  
2 eggs, hard boiled and minced  
2 tbsp lemon juice

**Cook the asparagus and keep it warm. Melt butter in a double boiler. Blend in flour. Add milk and half and half slowly while stirring constantly. Cook until smooth and thick. Reserve 1 tsp of the egg. Add remainder to the sauce and stir in well. Place the asparagus in a serving dish,**

**sprinkle with lemon juice. Pour sauce into a gravy boat, sprinkle with the egg, and serve. Serves 4 normal folks, or as many Banjo pickers that can get at it!**

One of my favorite things to eat is a good ol bowl of homemade soup. And, one of my all time favorite soups is potato soup. A good bowl of hot soup fer lunch is hard to beat on a chilly spring day. Serve it up with some hot bread of any kind, be it biscuits, corn bread, or garlic bread, and you'll get rave reviews every time. The secret is to have HOT bread with the hot soup. Cold bread jes ruins the meal in my opinion. When the day is kinda chilly, I'll put on a pot of soup early in the morning, and come lunchtime, I'll mix up a big skillet of corn bread, and in 25 minutes it's time to put on the feed bag! THEN, it's out to the couch by my stove fer a nice long nap! When yer belly ain't got no wrinkles in it like that, I can sleep like a ground squirrel stretched out on a flat rock in the sun! Here's a recipe fer potato soup that'll throw a craving fer a nap on you, every time you have some.

## Potato Soup with Cheddar Cheese and Corned Beef

1/4 cup unsalted butter  
2 small Leeks, washed, trimmed, and chopped  
1 large yellow Onion, chopped  
1 carrot, peeled, and chopped  
1 garlic clove, minced  
1/2 cup flour  
6 cups chicken broth  
3 pounds of baking potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch cubes  
1 pound sharp Cheddar Cheese, shredded  
1/3 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp pepper  
1 cup of heavy Cream  
1/4 lb. corned beef, chopped  
3 tbsp chopped chives

**Melt butter over medium heat. Add onion, leeks, carrot and garlic. Saute for 5 minutes until they start to soften. Stirring continuously, stir in the flour, and the broth. Add the potatoes, bring to a boil, reduce to a simmer, cook partially covered till the potatoes are tender. About 15 minutes. Add the cheese slowly to the soup, stirring it in good. Stirring continuously, add the cream and the salt and pepper. Heat almost to the boiling point and turn off the heat. Ladle into heated bowls, garnish with the chopped corned beef and the chives. Now there is what 'Tater soup is all about!**

Like my pard Vern used to say; a feller could eat a dog's bait of this, it's so dern good! A big bowl of this, along with about a half a skillet of corn bread, and son, it don't get no

gooder than that!

One of my favorite sandwiches of all time is a good roast beef sandwich. A roast beef sandwich is everybody's favorite, and they'll never turn one down when it's lunch OR supper time. My mom used to make shredded beef sandwiches from time to time when I was a little bitty red neck, and fer the life of me, I can't remember what she put in 'em to make 'em taste so dern good! Well, as Ron Thomason would say: told ya that, now I'll tell ya this! Here a while back I found this next recipe in one of my cookin' magazines, and it sounded like it was gonna be real close to what my mom used to fix, so I whipped up a mess of it, and boy does it ever make a great sandwich! It's not quite my mom's version, but it's close enuff fer me to call it a winner! Now this recipe will make a LOT of sandwich filling, in fact it'll make enough fer 30 sandwiches, so you might half the recipe, or jes do what I did. Put the rest into serving size freezer bags and pop 'em into the freezer fer later use. This recipe comes to you, courtesy of Mary Johnson, of Whitehouse, Ohio.

## Shredded Beef 'n Slaw Sandwiches

4 lbs beef stew meat, 1" chunks  
2 cups of water  
2 cups Ketchup  
1/2 to 3/4 cup of Worcestershire sauce  
2 tbsp lemon juice  
2 tbsp prepared horseradish  
1 tbsp prepared mustard  
2 tsp salt  
8 cups of shredded cabbage

**Bring beef and water to a boil in a large pot. Cover and simmer for 2 hours until tender. Remove beef with a slotted spoon. Shred with two forks and set aside. Skim the fat from cooking liquid. Stir in the Ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, lemon juice, horseradish, mustard and salt. Add the shredded beef and the cabbage, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to a simmer, cover and cook for 45 minutes or until the cabbage is tender. Use about a third of a cup fer each sandwich.**

This will feed a good sized crowd of pickers at one of yer next jam sessions, and it won't cost an arm and a leg to feed 'em, but they'll love yer fer it!

Well folks, this next month is FESTIVAL TIME! So, like I remind you all every year, NOW is the time to check out ALL of yer camping gear that you are gonna use at the festival. Inflate all of those air mattresses that you use only two or three time a year. Let 'em stay that way all day, to see if you are



J.D. Rhynes

gonna wake up in the middle of the night on the HARD ground. WHEN did you buy that mattress? I'll bet that it CANT be over 10 or 11 years ago? How about the plastic webbing in yer folding chairs? Are they looking seedy and worn? I'll never forget the time that I took my 10 year old folding chair to the audience area, plopped down into it, only to have the seat rip asunder, and grab me like an animal in a trap! Thanks to the folks next to me, I was extracted from that bent mess of tubing, in one piece. All to my exclamations of, "Why, I jes bought that thing!" You can't buy anything good any more! All the while trying to slink out of sight gracefully, which jes NEVER seems to work. Then there's the lanterns that you only use at festivals. Fire those babies up and see if they'll burn fer an hour or so. Do you have spare mantles with you? Seems like every time you get to the festival the vibrations of traveling ALWAYS eat the mantles up! Have at least 2 for each lantern you use. You will not regret it. When was the last time you had the wheel bearings packed on your trailer? One of my friends that lives in the southern part of the state headed fer Grass Valley a few years ago, pulling his trailer with all of the camping gear in it. About three miles from his house, one of the trailer wheels passed him, and when he looked into the side mirror all he could see was sparks coming from the axle dragging on the ground! Needless to say, he didn't make it to the festival that year. How long has it been since you had the wheel bearings on yer truck or car serviced? Also, how's the brakes on it? The moral of this part is whatever a particular piece of equipment is supposed to do, make sure that it DOES IT. The quickest way that I know of to have a BIG hotel bill, is to unroll your sweet wife's sleeping bag, only to find that a mouse has made it his winter home, and now it smells and looks like pure Hell! Nuff said!

With that bit of info, I'll say farewell fer this month. Remember to keep all of our wonderful, brave service men and women in your prayers. Without them we would not be the land of the free! GOD BLESS AMERICA, and may He grant us all peace and health. Yer Friend, J.D. Rhynes

## Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival - May 3rd 2008

From page A-7

call Bob Schwartz at 415-999-3131 or e-mail RSchwartz@TruckerHuss.com. For Marty Varner call Mark Varner at 831-338-0618 and for A.J. Lee call Betsy Riger at 209-815-4454 or e-mail rigerb@yahoo.com

This is a great opportunity to showcase what the Kids on Bluegrass is all about. And what it is all about is giving our kids an opportunity to learn this great music and perform this music by providing them a stage to perform on everywhere and show the world that kids can inspire other kids to learn

to play. These kids are the future of bluegrass music and we would like to say thank you to Randi Rembe, for making our kids and our Kids on Bluegrass an important part of this festival.

For more information about the Foggy Mountain Bluegrass Festival go to [www.foggymountainfestival.com](http://www.foggymountainfestival.com) or call Randi Rembe at 707-433-6588

For more about our Kids on bluegrass go to [www.kidsonbluegrass.com](http://www.kidsonbluegrass.com). Please help support our Kids On Bluegrass wherever they play. Kids that play bluegrass music are kids on bluegrass.



# Joe Weed's Studio Insider

## Technology and Music

Since this column will appear before the Father's Day Bluegrass Festival in Grass Valley, I'd like to tell you about a couple of workshops I'll be offering there. On Saturday, June 14 from noon until 1:00 in the building next to the luthiers' pavilion, (and within earshot of the food court), I'll be demonstrating a ProTools mixing session of a bluegrass tune. I'll have a MacBook, Digidesign MBox with ProTools, two speakers, and a projector, so that everybody can see and hear the workings of a mix. I'll be happy to answer your questions about recording and mixing bluegrass instruments and vocals. If you're new to recording, or thinking about dipping your toe in, then stop by, listen, and ask questions. If you're a veteran of many sessions, please come and contribute.

On Sunday, June 15, in the same location, I'll be showing selected chapters from my documentary, "The Westphalia Waltz." You're invited to watch fascinating and funny musical history. We'll save time for question-and-answers about the tune, the people involved in its creation, and the rewarding yet complicated process of researching and documenting this twentieth century story.

## Highland Studios session in Nashville?

Next week we'll be doing a cross-country overdub session with a studio in Nashville. Rob Ickes will be overdubbing dobro parts on a couple of Chuck McCabe's tunes. Chuck's working on his album here at Highland Studios in the Santa Cruz mountains, and Rob won't be in California until June, when Blue Highway comes out for Grass Valley. But Chuck needs to have Rob's parts on the tunes so that we can mix it and finish the album in time for the planned release in May. Here's how it's going to work: Earlier, we sent a DVD-R (these disks are like CDs, but can hold over four Gigs of data) to the Nashville Studio, with versions of Chuck's songs in current ProTools format. We included separate tracks for bass, guitar, mando, fiddles, and drums, so that Rob can request whatever mix he wants to overdub to. We've communicated with the studio and engineer, and described the miking technique I like to use for tracking Rob's dobro. (We usually put up a pair of large diaphragm cardioid condenser mics in a modified xy pattern, about 18" above the dobro's resonator.) The room Rob will be tracking in is very small and very dead, so we'll have to make a few changes to the ambience once the tracks come back to us. We emailed Rob mp3s of rough mixes of the tunes, and included a description of the parts we'd like him to play. We'll call the studio when the session is slated to begin. The studio has the telephone line patched into the headphone mix, so we can push the talkback button

from California! I'm not sure I'd want to try this with just any musician on any project, but Rob is so good, and such a quick study, that we're confident that we'll get parts that are well suited to the tunes. Since he's already added dobro to several other pieces on the project, (as well as to several cuts on Chuck's "Sweet Reunion" album) we're looking forward to working with him on these two tunes, even if by long distance. I'll let you know how it all works out!

## Recording technology affects music styles

When you sit down with your computer and gear in order to record your band, some big issues afoot affect your music in many ways that may not seem obvious at first. But these issues may be controlling many factors, and even the sound of the band. Consider the case of the early recordings that were made before the electronic microphone came into popular use in the mid-1920's. Due to the way the old pre-electronic microphones worked, the best recordings resulted from vocalists whose style reflected the powerful, hall-filling voices of opera singers. The early recording devices had to record on fragile disks that were mostly 10 or 12 inches in diameter, and could only work uninterrupted from the beginning of the disk to the end. That meant that the recording artists had to prepare an arrangement that would be complete in about three to three and a half minutes. And it had to be well-rehearsed. There was no running the tape back for take 2, or take 15, because each take had to be done on a new virgin disk.

These technological limits of the day served to ensure that mostly well rehearsed music was recorded, and not spontaneous, unrehearsed improvisations. The risks of "spoiling" a virgin blank disk were too great, and the cost of the disks too high, to permit endless re-takes if the performance was too long or too flawed. The sound quality that was needed to survive the munching of the primitive recording and duplication processes meant that only certain types of music got recorded -- mostly loud professional singers.

Many of us like the unrehearsed and spontaneous sound and feel of live music. Today's technology allows us to capture that sound, and live recordings can be a wonderful way to experience performers at their very best.

**Get your tunes here, folks, get your tunes here! Only 99 cents...**

Today, we're seeing the complete destruction of the traditional means of selling and delivering audio recordings, and the world that's emerging is still far from clear. Apple has just surpassed Walmart to become the largest retailer of

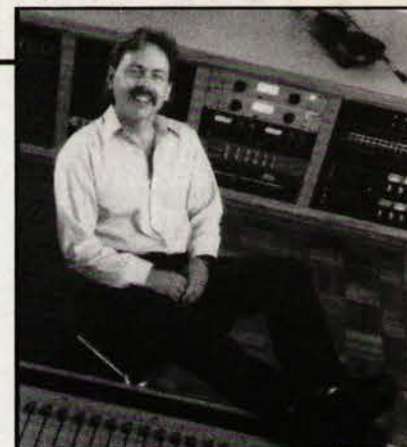
music in the United States. Apple sells songs for 99 cents each, and a buyer doesn't have to purchase a complete album to get just one particular tune. This will greatly change how artists record, assemble, package, and sell their music. If a tune has to "stand on its own," the short, quirky tune that serves as emotional or sonic relief on an album when placed between a torch song and a barn-burner may become obsolete. Imagine the world without Simon and Garfunkel's "Feelin' Groovy." Would a tune like that succeed today if it were up on iTunes as a cut from a fairly new band that the music-buying kids listen to?

## Oh yeah -- back to the gear...

At last month's annual ARSC (Association for Recorded Sound Collections) conference, held this year at Stanford, researchers demonstrated a sound recording made by a Frenchman, almost 20 years before Thomas Edison's famous "Mary Had a Little Lamb" tin foil

recording. The recording was made by Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville, and is a 10-second recording of a woman singing the folk song "Au Clair de la Lune" in 1860, before the American Civil War had begun. Scott called the recording a sound "phonograph," and it was made by a machine writing lines on paper, with the sound waves from the singer shaping those lines. Contemporary American researchers used computers and digital technology to read the lines and make music from them, completing a cycle that Scott had never intended to complete, as the phonograph was for display only, not for playback.

Who knows what information future scientists and researchers might pull from our contemporary recordings? (Be careful what you say between takes!)



Joe Weed

Joe Weed records acoustic music at his Highland Studios near Los Gatos, California. He has released six albums of his own, produced many projects for independent artists and labels, and does sound tracks for film, TV and museums. He recently worked on the PBS film "Andrew Jackson," which premiered nationally on January 2, 2008. Reach Joe by calling (408) 353-3353, by email at joe@highlandpublishing.com, or by visiting joeweet.com.



# THE PLOUGH AND STARS

116 Clement Street, SF

CBA sponsored jam every 1st Wednesday

A Benefit Concert for  
Greenbelt Alliance

## BLUEGRASS FOR THE GREENBELT

### Hot Buttered Rum

### Laurie Lewis and the Right Hands

### The Wranglers

## June 22, 2008, 2 pm Dunsmuir House, Oakland

Tickets: \$25 Greenbelt Members; \$40 Non-members

Info 415-543-6771, [www.bluegrassfortheGreenbelt.org](http://www.bluegrassfortheGreenbelt.org)



All concert proceeds benefit Greenbelt Alliance programs and advocacy for open spaces and vibrant places.



# Al's Music Tidbits... By Al Shank

**Dominant Harmony** Last month, I took a detour into humor, only half of which was printed, unfortunately. Some of you may have seen the entire article in Mark Varner's Welcome Message on March 31; if not, well, the part that disappeared into thin air contained a bunch of almost-believable bull about Bill Monroe bending his double strings to get a slightly different pitch out of each, then ended with "April Fool!"

So, perhaps a bit of review is in order. In a major key (most Bluegrass songs/tunes are in major keys), the chords formed by stacking two intervals of a third on top of each scale degree are:

- I major triad (notes 1, 3 and 5)
- II minor triad (notes 2, 4 and 6)
- III minor triad (notes 3, 5 and 7)
- IV major triad (notes 4, 6 and 1)
- V major triad (notes 5, 7 and 2)
- VI minor triad (notes 6, 1 and 3)
- VII diminished triad (notes 7, 2 and 4)

The triad on the "leading tone" (7th degree) is virtually never used as such, but it sounds like a V chord, the reason for which will be explained shortly. In Bluegrass, a large majority of songs and tunes use only the I (tonic), IV (subdominant) and V (dominant) chords, and most of the rest use those plus a VI (submediant, E minor in the key of G, for example, as in "Down the Road").

The dominant-to-tonic progression (V to I) is generally considered the most "satisfying", although this is very subjective. If you play a G chord to establish the key to your ear, then play the open D string followed by the G note on the low E string (3rd fret), you will probably get a sense of "repose". Note that in this progression the root is moving up a fourth (or down a fifth). Other "up 4" progressions have a similar effect, like I to IV or II to V (Am to D in the key of G). Many, many phrases in Bluegrass songs end with an "up 4" change. Another factor that makes it a strong change is that the leading tone (7th degree) has a natural tendency to resolve upward to the tonic, which it does in most V to I progressions.

Movement of the root up a fifth (down a fourth) gives the opposite effect; one gets a sense of incompleteness, an expectation of a return. Quite a few Bluegrass songs have a verse or chorus that consists of just a I V I progression, probably repeated (verses of McReynolds Brothers' "I Wish You Knew" and The Dillards' "Never See My Home Again"). I think of this pattern as driving up a hill, then coasting down the other side.

If it weren't for the feeling of key, or tonal center, the I to IV change would be indistinguishable from the V to I; indeed, the V to I change in G is the same chord progression as I to IV in D. So, how do you tell the difference? The key is the set of chords and notes. In the key of D, the leading tone is C#, a note foreign to the key of G, which has C natural as the fourth degree. So, the V chord in D is A major, also foreign to the key of G. The IV, V and I chords clearly establish the key, whether C, D and G or G, A and D.

To me, the I IV change sounds like going down a hill, then climbing back up via IV to I. The IV chord, however, often progresses to V rather than going back to I, and there are many phrases that end with IV, V, I.

Suppose you are in the key of G, playing a IV (C) chord, consisting of the notes C, E and G, with another C in the bass. The next chord is D major, but as the bass C (4) progresses to D (5), the E (6) note progresses to F# (7) and the G (1) goes to A (2), the C note is held over. This is called a "suspension", and is a very common melodic device in music. Let's examine the resulting chord for its intervals. Here are the notes:

C  
A  
F#  
D

Can we name the intervals?

D to F# - major third  
D to A - perfect fifth  
D to C - minor 7th  
F# to A - minor third  
F# to C - diminished fifth  
A to C - minor third

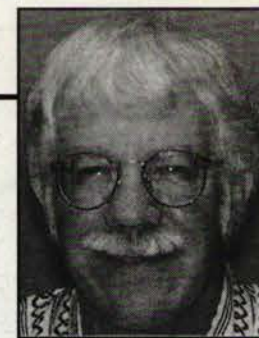
We recognize a D major chord in there, right, major third and perfect fifth over the root and a minor third between the 3rd and 5th of the chord? (Remember that a triad has a root, 3rd and 5th.) But now we have another note, which is another interval of a third stacked on top of the triad's two. This is called a "seventh chord", in this case a "dominant 7th". You play this on the guitar by fretting the B string at the first fret, not the third, when you make a D chord. This chord has an even stronger tendency to go to the tonic, because in addition to the root change from D to G (V to I) and the leading tone F# tending upward to G, you have the C note tending downward to B, the 3rd of the tonic chord. In addition, we now have two "dissonant" intervals, the diminished fifth between F# and C and the minor seventh between D and C. The diminished fifth (tritone, three whole tones), which has been called "diabolus in musica", has a strong tendency to resolve to a major third.

This chord, V7, can establish the key all by itself, because it contains both the leading tone and the subdominant, F# and C in the key of G. G is the only major key that contains both those notes. In C major, F is natural, and in D major, the next key around the Circle of Fifths, C is sharpened. In Bluegrass, the guitar player often does not play the V7 chord for the V, but you will hear that subdominant note somewhere in the melody line, a harmony part or in one of the lead instruments, more often than not.

By the way, the reason that the triad built on the 7th degree of the scale sounds like a dominant is that has all the notes of the dominant 7th chord except the dominant. It has a strong tendency to resolve to the tonic, because of the leading tone and the subdominant.

Next month, "secondary dominants".

Any questions or suggestions for subject matter: squidnet@notoriousshankbrothers.com.



Al Shank

## Hooked on Bluegrass

Each month we present a story from one of our members... This month's bluegrass confession is from:

### Bill Meiners CBA Comp. Ticket Coordinator



A very serious Bill Meiners

My grandmother gave me an AM radio when I was seven years old. My two favorite shows were Johnny Rion on KSTL and Skeets Yaney on WEW in St. Louis, Mis-

souri. Johnny Rion introduced me to the Stanley Brothers, Bill Monroe and Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs. In the early fifties I didn't know the term "Bluegrass" except for Monroe's Blue Grass Boys. Skeets Yaney introduced me to Web Pierce, Hank Williams, Ernest Tubbs and a whole host of country singers and musicians. My favorites were the Stanley Brothers (Rank Stranger, Maple on the Hill) and Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs (Cryin' My Heart Out Over You, I'll Go Steppin' Too).

When I was fifteen, my Aunt Louise got my Uncle Barney a guitar for his fortieth birthday. He brought it over to our house and played and sang. I asked him if he could show me how to play it and he showed me how to play two chords with one finger (C and G7). I had his guitar for most of the next six months until my mom finally got a guitar for me. It was an old Kay arch top that a chair leg had

gone through and was patched up with a piece of Formica.

At seventeen I graduated from high school and bought a new Gibson Country and Western guitar. I really wanted a Martin, but they were about \$400 and the Gibson was only \$330. I went to work at McDonnell Aircraft Company and my boss played mandolin. Our department secretary's husband played a 5-string banjo and he had a friend that played the fiddle. We jammed about once a week. It was really great, but ended when I went into the Air Force two years later.

In the service, I was stationed at Beale Air Force Base near Marysville, California where I met Ardell Christopher, a senior master sergeant, who played the fiddle. He had won several state fiddle contests. He also played the mandolin. We jammed together often and played for some events in town and on the base entertaining in the mess hall. He taught me a lot of old

time fiddle tunes.

I started working in San Jose, California after the service and my wife and I would go to Oroville to the California State Old Time Fiddle Contest every year. It was great jamming and I met some really nice people. It was at Oroville that I first saw Ray Park, Ron Hughey, Jay Belt, Virg Evans, Roscoe Keithly, and jamming in the parking lot were Pat Enright, Robbie McDonald, Paul Shelasky and Darol Anger.

Around 1974 I heard about a new organization called the Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers' Association that was going to hold a monthly jam in San Jose. I joined that association and began going to the jams. It was there that I met Jake Quesenberry and Jack Sadler. I am still a member of that association.

I met my good friend Dave Hixson and he was a flatpicker and banjo player. We would go to Capitola to listen to the Bear Creek

Boys and to San Jose to listen to the Sweetwater String Band. Tony Rice and David Grisman used to come down and sit in with Sweetwater while Grisman was working on the David Grisman Quintet album.

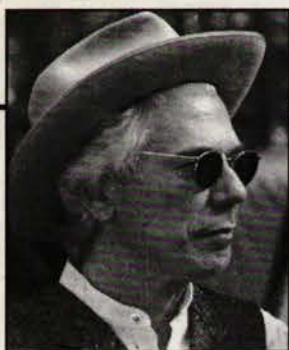
Dave Hixson moved to Albuquerque to work for Seymour Cray. Shortly after he moved, I met John Williamson who said he played guitar. He played classical and jazz guitar. I asked him if he was familiar with flatpicking. He said he wasn't, so I gave him a tape I made of Doc Watson, Clarence White, Dan Crary and Tony Rice. He really liked it and within a couple of weeks he was flatpicking. We are still jamming. We still work together and we jam during our lunch hour. He is one of the best guitar players I have ever accompanied.

In 2004 I saw an ad in our local paper for a bluegrass concert at the Morgan Hill Grange Hall.

Continued on A-22







Chuck Poling

## The State of the City

In 2006, when I responded to Rick Cornish and Darby Brandli's suggestion that I become Area Activities VP for San Francisco I told them that I didn't want to commit to more than I thought I could accomplish. They replied that since the CBA then had no representation in the city, anything I did to promote the CBA would be welcome and that I could basically set my own pace. Fair enough, I said, and I started out by distributing copies of the Bluegrass Breakdown in local bluegrass haunts and mentioning the CBA at the gigs I played or emceed. For the first time in about 35 years, I had a paper route.

The proximity of my house to Golden Gate Park led to the next idea I had to raise the profile the CBA in the city. Planning ahead, because popular picnic areas are subject to reservation, I booked a lovely little grove just a short walk from home and announced the first CBA sponsored Pickin' Picnic in the Park. I set up the old Weber and provided some burgers and dogs and got a lot of food and beverage contributions from guests. That first jam in the park we had a lot of good company, good food and good pickers – including six dobro players – go figure. And as I recall, my wife Jeanie signed up 8 or 10 new members for the CBA that day. We've had several more pickin' picnics since then and have drawn larger crowds each time.

"So there's not much to this," I thought. Get the paper out every month and host a few jams in the park, and just generally talk up the CBA to anyone who's interested in bluegrass. But recently, I've been inspired to be a little more ambitious by the efforts of other Area VPs like Craig Wilson, Mark Hogan and the rest, who are making things happen in their respective locales.

The city of San Francisco presents both challenges and opportunities to any organization looking to raise awareness and attract new members. On the one hand, there are a lot of young people with time, money and energy who are looking for diversions. On the other, there's fierce competition for their attention from every manner of entertainment. Fortunately for me and the CBA, there's already a lively scene entrenched in the city that I could attempt to build upon.

The Atlas Café has been home to a monthly bluegrass jam that just celebrated its 10th anniversary. The irrepressible Jimbo Trout has been keeping it going through fair weather and foul and has also been booking bluegrass bands on Thursday nights for nearly as long. Jeanie and I have been hosting the CBA sponsored Bluegrass Country Jam at the venerable Plough and Stars since 2001. The Plough has been a haven for Celtic music for over 25 years and since we started the jam, it has also regularly brought in bluegrass bands on other nights.

Bluegrass is on tap every Monday night at Amnesia in the Mission district. A mostly young and completely enthusiastic crowd packs the small club every week. Lots of twenty-somethings who are new to bluegrass are turned on by the energy and authenticity of the music and are thrilled to discover that there are lots of opportunities for them to see live performances and jams.

Out in the Sunset district just two blocks from Ocean Beach you can simultaneously enjoy the sounds of the waves and bluegrass music while quaffing the last beer between here and Honolulu. The Riptide is a cozy little neighborhood bar that draws a loyal and vocal crowd who enjoy their bluegrass and aren't afraid to hoot and holler about it.

So I started thinking how to tie all this together and put it under the umbrella of the CBA. My specific goals were to increase awareness of the CBA and to encourage new fans to come up to Grass Valley for the Father's Day Festival. I decided I would piggyback on the regularly scheduled events during the month of April and put together one show at the end of the month. Casting about for a theme, I recalled how many early bluegrass acts were sponsored by patent medicines like Wine of Cardui and Black Draught and came up with the name Bluegrass Tonic.

OK, I had a theme and some venues and bands I could work with, but what I needed most was...help! I'm sure any of the Area VPs could tell you that it's hard to get anything done without some assistance from friends and fans. Luckily, Jeanie has applied her talents in organizing, editing and just plain getting things done, and helps me in all my CBA activities. And I don't know where I'd be without all the creative skills that Dave Zimmerman has provided, like the cool design he came up with for the Bluegrass Tonic ads/postcards and posters.

I targeted bands that appeal to younger audiences and was pleased at the enthusiasm they all expressed when asked to participate. The Mountain Boys, 49 Special and the Burning Embers play with the type of energy that leaves crowds

screaming for more. Even the most casual fans of bluegrass can get caught up in the excitement when these bands are on stage.

And figuring it couldn't hurt to ask, I contacted Colleen Browne of the Wranglers to see if they could come out and play at the Atlas Café with us. She checked with the band, which includes banjo player Warren Hellman, and came back with a great big "yes." I figure turnabout is fair play. Jeanie & Chuck's Country Roundup played at the second annual Hardly Strictly Bluegrass, the little fete Warren throws in Golden Gate Park every October. So now that I've lined up a gig for his band, I figure we're even.

I planned a big finale on April 25th at the Plough & Stars with the Mountain Boys and San Francisco's own Belle Monroe and Her Brewglass Boys. The bluegrass community here is just so proud that Belle and the Boys are appearing on the main stage at Grass Valley this year. They are all close personal friends of mine and I couldn't be happier for them. This honor is on top of placing third at the Rockygrass band competition in 2006 and being selected to play at Strawberry Music Festival this fall. In addition to performances by these two fine bands, we'll be holding a drawing

for two tickets to the Father's Day Festival.

Because of the lead times involved in producing a publication as large as the Breakdown, I'm putting this column to bed just as April begins, so by the time you read this the Bluegrass Tonic series will be over. Will it be a success? Well, that depends on what the criteria for success are. It's difficult to decide what the measuring stick would be – I'm not after something that's quantifiable.

Having spent many years in the advertising field, I understand the concept of branding and I believe the CBA has a lot of what's called "brand equity." The CBA has been around for a while; it has credibility, resources and connections in the highest levels of the bluegrass world. My mission, as I see it, is to build the brand – to make more people aware of it and its benefits. As the always wise Bruce Campbell pointed out in one of his columns, most people typically don't become joiners until they are in their 30s or 40s. But while they are younger, they can be introduced to the possibilities and provided with something to think about. I've put out a good deal of publicity about the Tonic series and I'm pretty sure that the events will be pretty well attended. As emcee, I'm going to

sing the praises of the Father's Day Festival and encourage everyone who'll listen to enter the drawing.

While my efforts as Area Activities VP may not result in a noticeable spike in festival ticket sales or new memberships from San Francisco residents, I do believe that promoting the CBA will attract tomorrow's members. At the same time, I'm providing CBA-sponsored events for longtime members who for years have had to leave town for any CBA activity. I'm glad to know that with the increase this year in the number of Area VPs that members throughout most of the state can enjoy the benefits of the statewide organization. It's like the old saying goes – "think globally, jam locally." Or something like that.

It's important for all us to think about the future of the CBA and how we can spread the word to the huge potential membership among young people. With any luck, I may reel in a few during Bluegrass Tonic month. My guess is that if I can get them to come up to Grass Valley and experience four days of bluegrass heaven in the shade of the pines, it'll be child's play to get them to join up. Hey, it worked for me.

## Bluegrass Masters

*Joe Weed & Highland Studio*



...We know acoustic music! (800) 354-5580

Concerned about how your duplicator may "master" your precious recordings?

Let us make the master you need, with GUARANTEED sound.

You'll get a free proof to play on your CD player at home!

Accepted at all US duplicators  
Send your project to

**Highland Studio**  
for mastering by Joe Weed



# The Bluegrass Bard - Cliff Compton

## Fathers Day

And Glen and Sally were playing  
 "you know I'll get there when I get there."  
 I thought boy, that's a great song  
 And I thought, and I'm already here  
 In Grass Valley, Father's day festival  
 Like no place else  
 And I'm watching Sally play  
 And I'm thinking she's got the perfect name  
 Sally  
 Grass Valley Sally  
 Somebody ought to write a song

There's a ring around the moon in grass valley  
 As we stand beneath the Ponderosa Pines  
 There's a ring on the finger of Sally  
 And neither of those rings are mine

And there's something about this place  
 Something that makes me circle the dates on that calendar  
 Something that would make me ask a friend to change his wedding date  
 So I wouldn't miss this  
 And I remember the first time

I'm walking through these grounds carrying my guitar  
 And I see Dix Bruce  
 And some important looking swing guitar player  
 And they're picking something wonderful  
 I said "Can I join you?"  
 And Dix said sure, come on in  
 And the other picker looked at me like,  
 Do you know what you're getting yourself into?  
 But they were polite,  
 And we started to jam,  
 And it wasn't long before I was slack-jawed in amazement  
 Over what was coming out of those two gentlemen's guitars  
 And it wasn't much longer before I realized I was over my head  
 And out of my league  
 And I took a lead on something  
 And crashed and burned  
 But ol' Dix he acted like he didn't notice  
 He just picked and smiled encouragement  
 And acted like he hadn't figured out  
 That I was still trying to decide which end of the guitar  
 That I was supposed to play

And that's grass valley I guess,  
 Where folks usually don't read your pedigree  
 And are quick to share a song or a sandwich  
 And it's there I got to know Pat Calhoun  
 And if that wasn't a high point in life I don't know what was  
 This wonderful woman with the accordion  
 Who knew every gospel song ever written  
 And could play them all with enough power  
 To make a dead church rock  
 And we jammed over by the fence  
 With about eighteen gazillion people

And I busted so many strings  
 That the price steel went up ten cents a pound  
 And we were singing I'll fly away and  
 I felt like we were going to  
 And I was jumping so high  
 That I had hang time

And I met that old rascal Lloyd Butler  
 And Wayne Nolin and our rowdy friends  
 And we played them old country blues till  
 All the teenagers were in bed and asleep  
 And people thought I was drunk  
 Because they think you have to be to have that much fun  
 But I wasn't, because I don't drink  
 I was just flying high from all that  
 Out of tune and perfect music

And it don't change  
 This Grass Valley thing  
 Every year it's new and wonderful  
 One time it's three o'clock in the morning  
 And the fiddle player from the navy band is out under the streetlight  
 In my middle of the festival grounds  
 And his perfectly starched shirt is half hanging out of his pants  
 And he's fiddling four hundred miles an hour  
 With some young kid that could burn the varnish off her Chinese violin  
 And the magic is so thick it looks like pixie dust hanging in the air  
 And I'm so tired I can't stand up  
 But I stand and watch them anyway because this is grass valley  
 And life don't get much better than this

And a few years later it's another 3:00 a.m.  
 And the Boston boys are singing "Ain't nobody gonna miss me when I'm gone" with  
 Rick Cornish and I'm thinking,  
 "that's the most beautiful hillbilly harmony I've ever heard, and what it's doing coming  
 from Boston?"

And I finally walk away because I'm dog tired and  
 On the way back to my tent, I run into this guy from the "Junkyard Gypsies"  
 And he's doing this Jango stuff, and of course I've got to try picking it  
 And he says most of these bluegrassers don't want to try this stuff  
 And I said fools rush in where wise men fear to tread  
 But eventually even fools gotta sleep  
 And I really getting close to that tent  
 But there's these young guys picking something pretty  
 And I stop and join in  
 And there's one guy sleeping in his chair  
 And everybody is taking pictures with him just to get a laugh in the morning  
 And so somewhere in cyberspace there's a picture of me with somebody  
 I don't know, taken at 3:30 in the morning at grass valley on a perfect night  
 At the best festival on this planet

And that's all I've got to say about fathers day  
 And fingers are itching  
 And I'm buying extra strings

April 2003



## NCBS Announces New August Dates, Bands For 15th Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival

From page A-1  
 Creek, Belle Monroe & Her Brew Glass Boys, Common Cents, Courthouse Ramblers, Cross Roads, Earthquake Country, Faux Renwah, Highway One, Houston Jones, Jimmy Chick-enpants, Keystone Station, Kids On Stage, Kitchen Help, Mighty Crows, Mossy Creek, Nell Robinson & Red Level, Page Brown-ton & Sidetrack, Rogue River, Scott Gates & Pacific Ocean Bluegrass Band, Smiley Mountain Band, Stoney Mountain Ramblers, Western Lights, Wranglers, and special guest Yodeling Lady Lolita.

In addition to the 26 main stage acts, other bands will perform on the 'tweener stage before the full audience. The festival features a shaded audience area, 100% flushy restrooms,

hot showers, free high speed wireless access, a low power broadcast of the stage to the camp, RV hook-ups, plenty of RV parking and tent camping space, children's activities, food and craft vendors, a raffle, and pleasant evening temperatures for jamming.

Advance ticket prices will remain the same as last year. The festival is the closest 3-day camping festival to the Bay Area. NCBS members receive deep discounts on advance tickets, making this event one of the most affordable bluegrass events of the summer season. For more information, visit the NCBS website, [www.ncbs.us](http://www.ncbs.us) or e-mail [hallmw@gmail.com](mailto:hallmw@gmail.com).

**Billy Pitrone and Sarah Eblen of Bean Creek perform at NCBS's GOF Festival**

photo: Noreen Cepernich





# BMP BLUEGRASS Music Profiles

*What a wonderful experience it was working together with Bluegrass Music Profiles to share the story of Pine Mountain Railroad. Thanks, Kevin & Lori, for the opportunity! Folks all over the USA love BMP magazine and so do all of us at PMRR."*

**Cody Shuler**  
**Pine Mountain Railroad**

**Subscribe Today**  
**1 year/\$20**

*Timely*  
*Bluegrass At Its Best!*

**BMP**  
**PO Box 850**  
**Nicholasville, KY 40340-0850**

**859-333-6465**

**[www.bluegrassmusicprofiles.com](http://www.bluegrassmusicprofiles.com)**



*Foggy Mountain Productions Proudly Presents*

## FOGGY MOUNTAIN BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

SATURDAY MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2008

On the Green, Old Downtown Windsor, California, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Stiff Dead Cat**

**Ed Neff *with* Blue and Lonesome**

**The Jug Dealers, The Haxaw Ditch Dwellers**

*Kids On Bluegrass Featuring*

**The Mighty Chiplings, The OMG Band, Aissa (A.J.) Lee**

**ATTRACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY**

28<sup>th</sup> Annual Windsor Day Parade • Sparks Veterans Memorial Stage Dedication • Coastal Valley Lines Model Railway • Airplane Flyover  
Artisans & Food Vendors • Old Downtown Merchants & Gourmet Restaurants • Classic Car Show • Acoustic Jams Under the Oaks

Puppet Shows to Live Music • Fairy Tale Tea Parties • Hula Hoops  
Airbrush Tattoos & Face Painting • Children's Playground  
Scholastic Book Fair *with* Clifford the Big Red Dog • Gymnastics Demonstrations • Bounce Castles & Slides • Rock Climbing Wall

Coolers and Low Back Chairs Welcome • Spacious, Beautiful Venue in the Heart of Wine Country

**FREE ADMISSION**

**[www.foggymountainfestival.com](http://www.foggymountainfestival.com)**



## Hooked on Bluegrass

From page A-18

I called the number in the ad to inquire about tickets. A man answered and asked me where I lived. I said that I live in San Martin and he said he would bring the tickets to my house. This was a new experience for me. The man came up in his work truck with the tickets. I asked him, "Do you play an instrument?" He said, "I play the banjo." I asked him "Why don't you come to my house this Thursday evening and jam?" He said, "Okay." That was the first time I met Tim Edes. He came, we jammed with Reid Fisher on fiddle, and we've been good friends ever since.

Tim kept asking me to go to Grass Valley for the Father's Day Bluegrass Festival and I kept telling him that my tent camping days were over and that I didn't like big crowds. Well, he kept bugging me to go. I didn't go to the festival that year, but he kept telling me that I would like it. One Friday in March of 2005, I asked my wife if she would look at travel trailers with me. She agreed and so we went to Bonessa Brothers RV

in Gilroy. A very good friend of mine works there and he showed us some fifth-wheel RVs. We were in one that looked like you could get five people inside for a jam. My wife suggested we buy it. I couldn't believe what I had just heard her say. We bought the RV that day.

The next day was the second Morgan Hill Grange Bluegrass Concert that Tim was putting on. I had bought eight tickets for friends. During the concert, Tim gave away door prizes and the grand prize was a pair of tickets to the 2005 Father's Day Festival. Tim called the number of the winner and nobody came up to claim the prize.

Another number was drawn and it was mine. I thought about buying the trailer yesterday and winning the tickets today that God wants me to go to Grass Valley. I went to Grass Valley that year and had a great time.

I've only been a CBA member since 2004 (I became a member at Tim's first concert), but it has been one of my life's most rewarding decisions. I am hooked.

### Help put instruments in the hands of kids...



Bethany McHenry sang and played her own guitar (signed by Rhonda Vincent) at the CBA's 2005 Grass Valley Festival. Other children are not as fortunate.

Photo by Bob Calkins

The Darrell Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library is a program for lending instruments to budding young musicians so that they can learn to play Bluegrass music. You can help our kids by donating instruments or money. The cash donations will help fix what the luthiers can't or even help us purchase, if necessary, parts or instruments that we might not get through donations.

**To Make a Tax Deductible Donation, please send check or money order payable to:**

**Kids Instrument Lending Library  
c/o Ed Alston CBA Treasurer  
P.O. Box 6954  
Santa Maria, CA 93456**



Kyle Abbott

## Bluegrass 'n Stuff...

By Kyle Abbott

Hey everybody! You have once again dipped yourself into the hot, bubbling sulfur pit that is Bluegrass 'n Stuff!

You may have noticed that at the end of every Bluegrass 'n Stuff, I usually give a preview of my next article. I've said I was going to show you how an anchor works, how to fluff a pillow, things like that. Since I always seem to find aged-to-perfection articles in my reruns folder, I never seem to get to these exciting topics. But today is the day! No, we're not going to discuss something as exciting as fluffing a pillow, but close. Today, we're going to talk about strings! String history, string lore, and, if we have time, how to make your own! Disconnect your phone and clear your calendar, 'cause it's going to be a looong ride! (Though be contented to know that since my word count is the same as always, it will only feel like it.)

Like all things good and pure, it started at the beginning. The first string was invented by God. Well, indirectly. It was 6000 years ago, and Adam and Eve were strolling through the Garden of Eden, spraying Holy Roundup on the dandelions. Since there is only so much you can do in a garden, they got rather bored. So, God said: "If you make a string really tight and pluck it, you shall get lovely notes." God faxed them a picture of what a string looked like. The closest thing that looked like it was hair. They decided to use Eve's hair. Not just because it was much longer, but Adam had a bit of a dandruff problem. So, Adam tied Eve's hair to one tree and made it taut. With Divine Tension, he got the hair taut enough that when he strummed the hair, it produced the most wonderful sound; which was, oddly enough, a G chord. Anyway, that didn't last too long, because Eve, though she enjoyed the sound, was a little irked from having her pulled taut. -That's why I always keep my hair short, in fear of Traditionalist musicians. Anyway, it was fun while it lasted. Then, as we all know, hunger took its toll and, figuring that they'd rather eat that apple than each other, they ate the fruit. (It didn't help that Lucifer had shellaced the apples to make them look oh-so-succulent.) So, that was how it all got started. (And they said I slept through Sunday School!)

Now, unlike Adam and Eve, the not-so-blessed people who didn't live in the Garden of Eden were in the middle of Ice Age. God, being a kind power, had blessed the

world by showering it with guitars. Unfortunately, they all broke upon impact. Lucifer made his attempt with banjos which, much to God's chagrin, didn't break (being made of metal and unholy power). However, not to be outdone, God made guitars grow from Martin trees. They didn't sound too good at first, but through cross-breeding, the HD-28 was eventually created. For those of you keeping track on the Holy Scoreboard, it's God: 1, Lucifer: -1. (But since negative is good in the bad way, both of them are evenly scored.)

It was Pure Bliss for the first week or so. Then, the novelty of the Martin logo on the headstock faded and they realized there were no strings on the instruments. (Because God had pity on the ears of the rest of the wildlife.)

Since they were in the middle of the Ice Age and they couldn't afford to waste that precious warm hair on strings, they made the strings out of yes, ice! They were, by far, the best strings ever made. They didn't need to be tightened and had a crisp-as-ice sound when played. However, the downside was that the strings would melt after a really hot jam or when the ol' mammothpokes (ancestor of the cowpokes) would play by the fire.

Step a few years farther and what do we spy? The Stone Age! This was a bad epoch for strings. Since the Ice Age had past, humans lost all their hair (I mean, they could've grown some more, but Brazilian Waxes were the big thing in those days) and couldn't make hair strings any more. So, they used the main material that was available to them, stone. The richest of the rich (those who had the prettiest shells in their collection) had marble stone strings, the middle class (who had those big stone wheels) had granite strings, and the poor class (the ones who invented the big stone wheels) were stuck with limestone strings which, while they broke on the first strum, were mighty tasty in their stone margaritas.

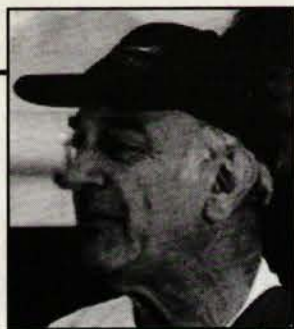
The stone strings were ok (though the roughness scratched the picks) but all the strings were confiscated to be used for arrows (and arrow strings) during the bloody War over Ugh Hill. Another downside in music during the Stone Age was the invention of the stone axe. This caused the extinction of the Martin tree when they were all chopped down to create wooden strings during the Wood Age. (Despite what pirate fans say, these were the years when peg legs were all the rage.) This was another Golden Age in the history of strings, as Martin trees were "musical grade" and thus the strings

made out of that wood sounded even better than hair. If that isn't a good ending to the story, I don't know what is. Unfortunately, termites had other ideas. And after they ate all the strings and peg legs, humans were back to the musical drawing board.

Let's move up to the final page in string history (or in the case of this article, String Theory), the Age of Vikings. It took place on the Viking ship K'plach. The great warrior Kolli Goatflattener, found himself in the middle of a great battle as the enemy ship, The Sun-rose, threw the grapples and the Scandinavian Buccaneers poured on board. Swords were glittering, blunderbusses were booming, and Elma was in the galley cooking up a delicious 5 vegetable winter soup. Kolli was knockin' 'em down. But then! As he raised up his cutlass, a pellet from a discharged blunderbuss knocked the sword out of his hand which sent it flying into the galley, straight at Elma! Fortunately, Elma had bent down to pick up a dropped cherry tomato (before the 10-second rule expired), just as the cutlass went over her head. That was a close one! Then, the cutlass went right into Elma's cheese grater, which shredded the cutlass like shoestring potatoes. In surprise of the sound, Elma's ladle went flying and struck, one at a time, each steel strand of sword that was embedded into the wall. From that, came sounds that rang out like the Valkyries from Valhalla. Very soon after, the battle was over, partially because of the calming feeling that real strings had been invented, but mainly 'cause a Kraken pulled both ships under the ocean blue. Fortunately, Kolli Goatflattener's middle name was Lifepreserver, and he always wore one. So he backstroked his way back to his Greenland where, after putting a patent on steel strings, he gave up the life of an ale swigging Viking to become a portly, wine guzzling, jolly ol' Bard.

And that, my friends, is the history of strings. All you kids out there now have something great to write for a report in history class! Now for the joke of the month: One day a lawyer was riding in his limousine when he saw a guy eating grass. He got out and asked him, "Why are you eating grass?" The man replied, "I'm so poor, I can't afford a thing to eat." So the lawyer said, "Poor guy, come back to my house." The guy said, "But I have a wife and three kids." The lawyer told him to bring them along. When they were all in the car, the poor man said, "Thanks for taking us back to your house, it is so kind of you." The lawyer said, "You're going to love it there, the grass is a foot tall." Heeyoooo!!! That's enough.



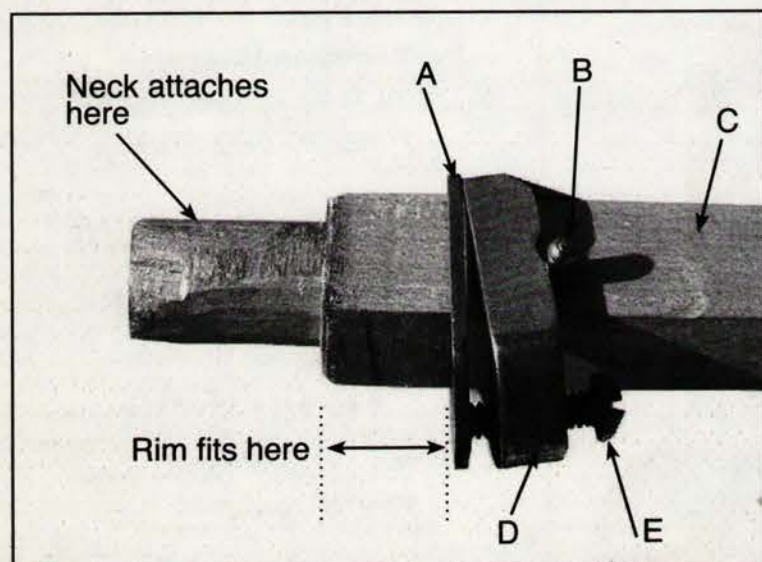


Roger Siminoff

## The Luthier's Corner - Roger Siminoff

**Q: I have an old open-back banjo that is all apart and I can't figure out how the parts go that hold the neck in. Can you help?**

**A:** While there were several different methods of securing the necks on the early banjos, most of them used a leverage system to pull the dowel stick (the wooden support that attaches to the neck) tight against the rim.



**Fig 1: Open back banjos use a leverage system to pull the dowel stick into the body and tighten the neck against the rim.**

Typically, there is a metal plate or bent U-shaped part (A) that fits against the rim to even out some of the force and prevent the rim from getting dented or damaged. Then, there is a pin (B) that goes through the dowelstick (C). You should have a U-shaped part (D) with a screw (E) in it that slides over the dowelstick and goes between the pin and the plate, positioned with the adjusting screw towards the bottom surface of the dowelstick. In this way when you tighten the screw, the screw pushes against the plate and forces the U-shaped piece backwards, which in turn puts pressure on the pin to pull the neck tight to the rim.

If you are making a new neck or fitting a new dowel stick, the placement of the pin is critical - it goes through the dowelstick at a location where the U-shaped piece is held against the plate and the screw has been backed off (and not touching the plate) so that you have some adjustment when the screw is tightened.

Over the years, there have been many systems for securing the dowelstick and neck in place. Some early design featured an angled groove in the dowelstick, or an wedge-shaped plate that went against the rim. Both of these had a matching angled part that was drawn up to the dowelstick with a screw. As the angled part got closer to the dowelstick, the wedge-shaped surface pulled the dowelstick and neck tighter to the rim.

All of the early open back banjos had some method of pulling the tailpiece-end of the dowelstick tight to the rim, typically, a screw in the end of the dowelstick. A wood screw threaded stud (some folks call them "hanger bolts" - basically, a screw with machine threads on one end, wood threads on the other) was used, and a nut-like stud was screwed onto the machine thread-end to act as an attachment place for the tailpiece's attaching screw. Some early systems had an adjustment inside the rim to raise or lower the end of the dowelstick to change the neck pitch. Most dowelsticks had a ferrule (tubular piece) that was forced over the end of the dowelstick to keep the wood from splitting under the load of the screw going into the end grain of the neck.

**Q: I've seen Titebond II in the stores. Is it better than the regular Titebond you recommend in your book?**

**A:** Franklin's Titebond® II is a water-proof aliphatic-resin glue that is intended primarily for outdoor use. The glued joints are highly resistant to water and provide an "indestructible" but somewhat pliable joint. While Titebond II is waterproof, and regular Titebond is not, Titebond II actually does not dry as hard (rigid) as regular Titebond. What we want in musical instrument joints and seams is a very hard connection of the parts as opposed to one that is pliable and damps vibrations. Also, Titebond II dries quite a bit darker -- something you don't want in soundboard and backboard center seams.

Franklin recently announced Titebond III which is waterproof, dries lighter in color, and is harder (less pliable) than Titebond II. This may be the answer for some luthiers, but others want instruments they can take apart with water or steam. Personally, I really prefer instruments that are designed to stay together!

While on the subject, some folks use Titebond sparingly. It is im-

portant to understand that the moisture (water) in the adhesive plays an important role in helping to set up the adhesive "film." Since some of the water gets immediately absorbed into the wood, using too little Titebond means that the remaining moisture will evaporate too quickly and this could result in "chalking" where the adhesive turns white and, as a result, the structural integrity of the joint is poor. To make a long story short (and to make better joints) use a sufficient amount of Titebond!

**Q: I read in your book on setting up banjos that the bridge is in a different place on a flattop banjo than on an archtop. I just had my archtop changed to the flattop and the bridge is in the exact same place.**

**A:** In the book, *How to Set Up the Best Sounding Banjo*, I say that the bridge is in a different location relative to the active diameter of the head, not in a different place on the banjo. Here's what happens:

Basically, both the archtop and the flattop tone chambers reside on the same banjo structure: an 11" diameter rim assembly with a fixed tailpiece and the same scale length. This means that regardless of the tone chamber design, the bridge sits in the same place relative to the structure of the banjo. However, since the flattop tone chamber's active vibrating area is 11" diameter (actually about 10-3/4" to 10-7/8" depending on maker of the tone ring) and the archtop tone chamber's active vibrating area is 9-1/2" diameter, the bridge is not in the same position across the head relative to the active vibrating area of both tone chamber designs.

Drummers are sensitive to the fact that the tone of a drum is highly dependent on where the head is struck; near the edge, a short distance from the edge, in the center, and so on. Since round plates [heads] vibrate in many different modes, the timbre is affected depending on which node or anti-node is excited. And, the same thing happens on banjos.

On an archtop banjo, the bridge is typically positioned about 3-1/4" into the active 9-1/2" area (at a point that is 34.2% of the active diameter). On a flattop banjo, the bridge is typically positioned 4" into the active 10-3/4" area (at a point that is 37.2% of the active diameter). So, the bridge is relatively closer to the edge of the rim on an archtop which is one factor that provides an archtop banjo with a brighter, sharper timbre.

=====

See you next month.

© Copyright 2008, Roger H. Siminoff, Arroyo Grande, CA.

If you have questions you would like answered, please email: [siminoff@siminoff.net](mailto:siminoff@siminoff.net), or write to Roger Siminoff, PO Box 1138, Arroyo Grande, CA 93421.

Roger Siminoff was the founder of *Pickin'* and *Frets* magazines and has written several books on instrument set-up and construction. His latest book, *The Physics of Music* is a transcription of student's notebook from one of Lloyd Loar's classes at Northwestern University before Loar's death in 1943. The book includes original illustrations as drawn by the student. For more on Roger Siminoff, *Siminoff Banjo and Mandolin Parts*, Gibson and Lloyd Loar history, visit his web site at: [www.siminoff.net](http://www.siminoff.net).

# BLUE GRASS ROCKS

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

Dan Tyminski Band

Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver

FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND

# HUCK FINN JUBILEE

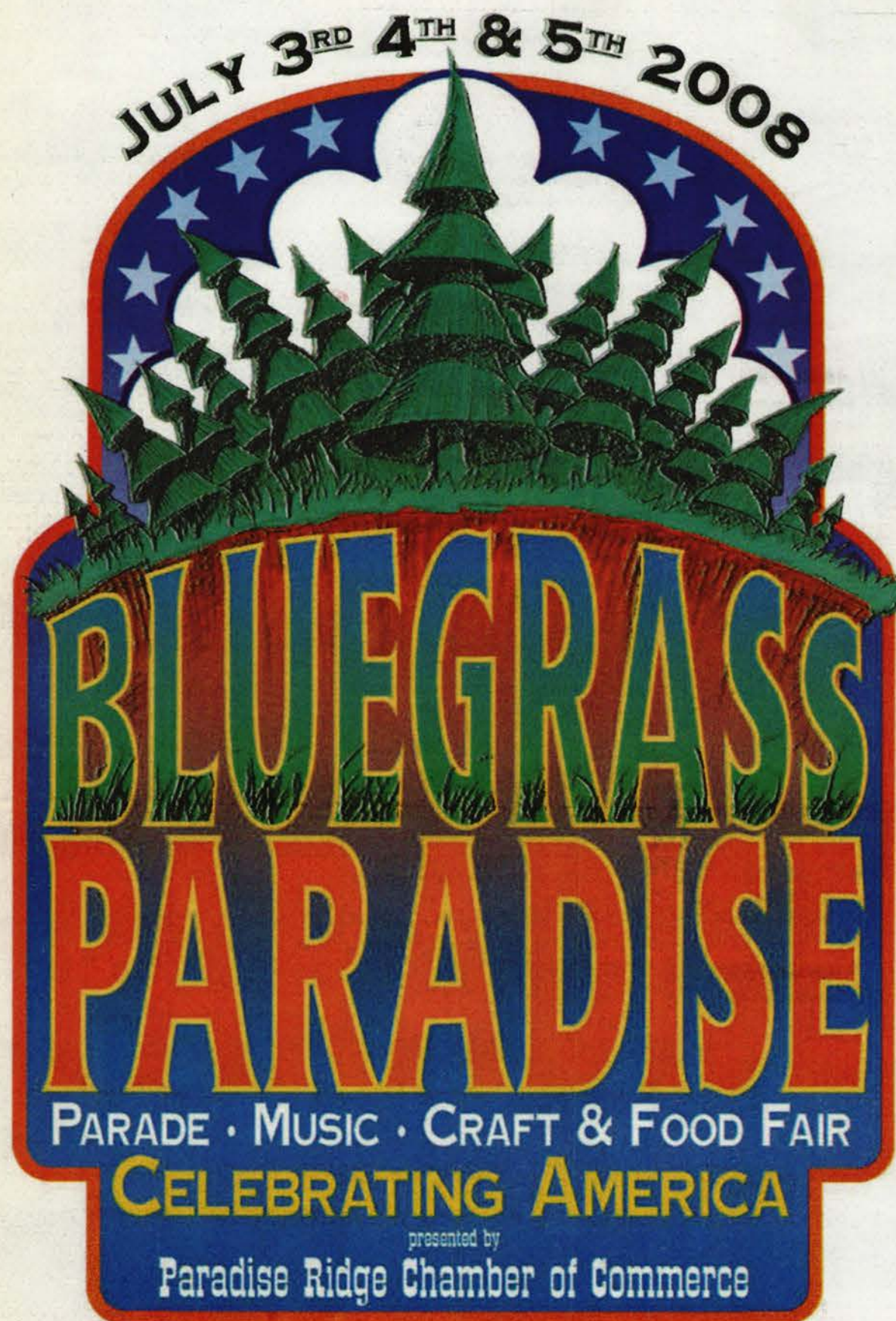
*A Great American Family Event*

[huckfinn.com](http://huckfinn.com)

Camp Out







### Thursday July 3

Presented by Paradise Performing Arts Center

10:00-5:00

PPAC: Music Camp  
with Frank Solivan, Sr.  
"Kids on Bluegrass"

\*For lodging options visit  
[paradisechamber.com](http://paradisechamber.com)

### Friday July 4th

10:30-11:30

Parade on Skyway

10:00-4:00

Paradise Community Park:  
Crafts and Food Fair

12:00-4:30

Paradise Community Park:  
12-1:30 Sid Lewis Bluegrass Revue  
1:30-3:00 The Anderson Family  
3:00-4:30 Pat Ikes "Bound to Ride"

5:00-9:00

California Bluegrass Association

Senior Center:  
Open Bluegrass Jammin' 101  
with Sid Lewis

### Saturday July 5th

Presented by Paradise Performing Arts Center

3:00-4:00

PPAC: Music Camp  
with Frank Solivan, Sr.  
"Kids on Bluegrass"

4:00-5:00

PPAC: Sawmill Road

5:00

Pat Ikes "Bound to Ride"

7:00

Anderson Family Bluegrass Band

8:00

Sawmill Road



Also happening: Quilt Show ~ Summer in Paradise Sidewalk & Antique Sale

For more information please visit: [www.paradisechamber.com](http://www.paradisechamber.com)





## CBA Spring Campout 2008

By Deb Livermore

AAAAHHHHHHH, Yes! The California Bluegrass Season has officially started!

That comment was made several times this past weekend. After

boy was it good. Beans by Chef Ed (Baker). Music by Pat Calhoun and her fine band. What a way to start a fine weekend.

Saturday was filled with activities. The afternoon presented the

in this event had a great time. In my mind, this is supposed to be fun. Winning is not the important thing. The camaraderie and the making of the music is! All of these people were appreciated for their musical skills and admired for their guts to get up on stage in front of a bunch of people that they didn't know, to perform the music that we all love! Thank you so much for your participation and I hope we get to do it again!

Oh, and a great big thanks to Henry Zuniga for providing the sound equipment and making everyone sound spectacular!

Late Saturday afternoon a meeting was held with the Area Vice Presidents. Bob Thomas gave important information and advice to those that will be helping their respective communities have access to bluegrass music. I'm sure they will all do their best to give you just that!

Saturday evening held a very special treat. Henry, again, was at his best as MC and soundman for our open mic night. All were invited to get up in front of the audience and perform. To open the show there were two groups of kids. One group I had seen many times - AJ Lee, Marty Varner and the Schwartz Brothers. I have loved seeing them all perform and this Saturday night was no different. Their musical skills are progressing at a rapid speed. The second youthful group, The Mighty Chiplings, I had never seen before and it was so great to see new young faces performing with an energy that lets you know that they will be around for many years! There were several other performers including AJ and her mom. They performed two songs, both bringing tears to my eyes. I am the sappy kind you know. Next came Larry Kuhn and friend. They were fun to watch. The last group I saw was "The Dalton Mountain Gang". Be ready to see those guys again. They are on the road to success in the Bluegrass Community. Great musicianship and they're entertaining as well!

The jamming on Thursday, Friday and Saturday was everywhere. You could hardly walk 100 yards without finding a new group of people playing quality music. I sat at my camp for a little while and could see two jams on opposite sides of the center of the action. I could hear each and they were playing the same song. Their timing was a little different but it was

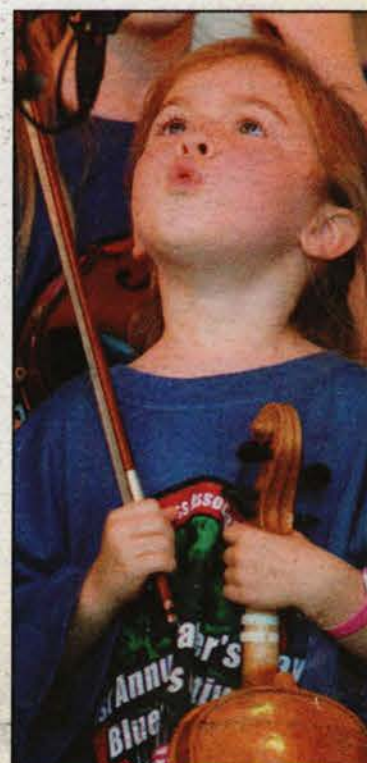
Continued on B-5

## Join the Kids On Bluegrass

By Sharon Elliott

The 2008 Fathers Day Bluegrass Festival is rapidly coming upon us and we are all eager to hear all those wonderful bands that are scheduled to appear at this year's festival. For many, one of these favorites is the Kids on Bluegrass who have performed continuously every year at the Fathers Day Festival for the past 17 years. In the beginning it was just a small group of kids who began to show the CBA that even kids can be very talented and entertaining and that they too should be able to have a place to perform. Since that very beginning, under the direction of Frank Solivan, the program has grown not only in size but popularity! Currently the Kids on Bluegrass program consists of anywhere from 35 to 50 kids between the ages of 3 to 18 and has become one of the most popular shows. Each year, one or more of the headliners like Rhonda Vincent, or the Stringdusters or even one of the first Kids on Bluegrass, Frank Solivan II of the U.S. Navy

Continued on B-3



Daisy Anderson participates in the KOB program



Lloyd Butler rules the 2008 CBA Spring Campout

what seemed to be a long winter, with just a couple of events provided, we knew that our wait was over. Even the weather man seemed to know it was time for friends to get together in the open air and enjoy each other's company and the music that brings us together. It was warm, almost too warm, and sunny. The intermittent gentle breezes that came through the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds were welcome.

I arrived Thursday evening after work and there were already lots of rigs circled in camps. It was fun going through the grounds to see who had arrived. By Saturday morning the park had really filled. Close to 150 RVs and tents were in place. Our Community was complete.

As for the music, well, there was lots of it. People had been practicing over the winter months and new tunes could be heard at most jams. Of course the favorites were played as well.

Our festivities started with Friday night's chicken dinner, presented by Chef Mike. His accomplices bar-b-que'd the chicken on site and

band scramble. We had a fun, fun band scramble. There was lots of wonderful music and many laughs had by all!!!!

The names of the bands and their participants are as follows. Please forgive me if there is no last name. I didn't get them all. Bands were: Me and The Juke Box: Buzz Lew, Armando, Dave Rietz, Bruno Brandly, Richard Smith, and Alexander/ The Diesel Corn Dogs: Dave Gooding, Randy Weese, Gail Reese, Craig Kincaid, and Matt Milan / Turlock Lefty and The 4 Js: Kerner Breaux, Doug Carlton, Mary Curtain, John Cogdill, Jason, and Ed Barker / Mountain Do (Do): Mike Gibson, Karl Kummerle, Bill S., Frank Solivan, Bob Man, and Raine Escobar / 20/20 Vision and Walking Round Blind: Paul Chesterton, Jerry Barush, Steve Pextar, Brian Anderson, and Bill Burkhart / The Last Straw: Kristen Willis, Larry Kuhn, Tim Edes, Yossef Tucker / The Left Overs: Valerie Conejo, Gene Roth, Tom Naiman, Bill Meiners, Steve West, and Kelvin Gregory.

I hope all of the participants

## 30th anniversary of Prucha Bluegrass Instruments

By Lilly Pavlak

Prucha Bluegrass Instruments celebrated in March 2008 its 30th anniversary. For this reason Jaroslav Prucha invited the Kruger Brothers, who came over for the Music Fair in Frankfurt Germany to play at the Prague Club, Mlejn.

They played the Banjo Jamboree in Czech Republic in 1999 and have many friends and fans there since. The club was completely sold out that March 15th, and hundreds of enthusiastic fans were waiting for them.

The concert was incredible. In the first part they showed us some bluegrass and older compositions and the second part belonged to an



The Kruger Brothers in Prague photo: Lilly Pavlak

introduction of their last CD, The Suite.

Some speechless Czech and Slovak musicians were even about to burn their instruments after this unforgettable event. Hopefully they'll get motivation to practice more and play better instead. Kruger Brothers visited also for 3 con-

Continued on B-3

### Also in the B section...

Steve Kaufman guitar tab  
Grass Valley Slow Jam songs  
Brenda Hough's CD reviews  
The CBA calendar  
and many more features, photos and articles





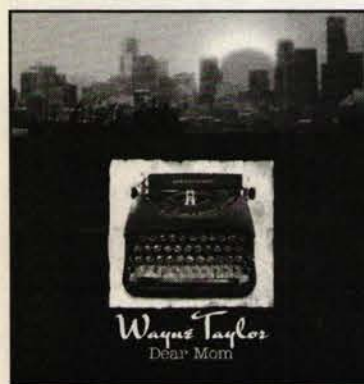
# CD Review - By George Ireton

## Dear Mom - Wayne C. Taylor

Raincoe Music  
1751 Regents Park Road West,  
Crofton, MD 21114  
www.waynecaylor.com

**Song list:** Golden Hair, Dreamin' of the Sea, Choices, My Smoky Mountain Home, Be Thou My Vision, Oh Lonesome Me, Little White Church, Late in September, Wayfaring Stranger, Grandpa Was A Carpenter, Lord Take Me Home, Dear Mom, Old Rugged Cross, Everybody's Talking.

Musicians include: Russell Moore and Ray Deaton - harmony vocals, Keith Arneson and Bill Emerson - banjo, Mike Auldridge - dobro, Emory Lester and Jimmy Gaudreau - mandolin, Kip Martin and Mike Nicholson - bass, Rickie Simpkins and Ron Stewart - fiddle, Wyatt Rice - guitar, and Wayne Taylor - lead and backup vocals and guitar.



Now from a music listener's standpoint, this CD would be an important addition to any play list or listening library. Here's why. It is all about the songs! The songs, man, the songs! Wayne Taylor has carefully chosen each track to lend relevance to the underlying theme of this project. I make it a practice to play a CD at least ten times before writing a review. In an effort to "get it", I listen carefully for lyrics and melodies that support the album title. I believe that the people who produce these works devote a great deal of creative thinking about song selection. I mean, they don't just throw together a few cowboy songs they may have learned forty years ago, and slap on a goofy title like "I'm Lonesome In The Saddle Since My Horse Died"! It adds a great deal of enjoyment for me when I take the time to consider these things. In this case, I think I understand.

The whole project seems like a thoughtful [audio] letter that carries the emotions and experiences of a lifelong wayfarer. It includes the songs that might be most pleasing and meaningful to a career sailor's mom. I can just envision the guy wishing he were sitting on Mom's front porch reminiscing with a few buddies, pickin' all her

favorite songs and watching the big grin on her face as she soaked it all in. "Dear Mom" is packed with a delightful mix of bluegrass, country, gospel, folk, blues, novelty and sentimental songs. Yep! Mom

would really like it.

Now let's talk for just a minute about "The Voice". That would otherwise be widely known as Wayne C. Taylor. Have you ever wondered just why you can understand every

word in every song he sings? Aside from his obvious God given gift of having a very unique timbre, he has made it his life's work to hone his best instrument, his voice. He consistently uses some of the same

vocal techniques that were used by great entertainers of our lifetime. When asked how she developed such a great singing voice, Rosemary Clooney once commented

*From page B-4*

## THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BLUEGRASS SOCIETY

presents

15th Annual

The Good Old Fashioned  
**BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**

Date of Festival  
Changed  
to August 2008

Abbott Family Band  
Amazing Dr. Zarcon's Breathing Machine  
Bean Creek  
Belle Monroe and Her Brewglass Boys  
Common Cents  
Courthouse Ramblers  
Cross Roads  
Earthquake Country  
Faux Renwah  
Highway One  
Houston Jones  
Jimmy Chickenpants  
Keystone Station



Kids on Stage  
Kitchen Help  
Mighty Crows  
Mossy Creek  
Nell Robinson & Red Level  
Page Browntown & Sidetrack  
Rogue River  
Scott Gates & Pacific Ocean Bluegrass Band  
Smiley Mountain Band  
Stoney Mountain Ramblers  
Western Lights  
Wranglers  
Special Guest Yodeling Lady Lolita

Note: Acts Subject to Change

August 8th, 9th, & 10th, 2008

**BOLADO PARK, HOLLISTER**

SOUND BY PAUL KNIGHT!!!

Gates open 8am  
Friday, Saturday &  
Sunday

Music Begins 3 pm  
Friday

Music Ends 5 pm  
Sunday

Camping & Children's Activities & Open Mic Stage  
Food Concessions & Raffle & Crafts & Jamming  
Info: (408)241-5920 • (650)596-9332 • (831)336-2185

NO BICYCLES

Shade Cloth in  
Audience Area

No Dogs Allowed

Special Low Back  
Chair Section

Limited RV Hookups  
at \$20/night

### 2008 Good Old Fashioned Festival Advance Ticket Mail Order Form

Ticket Prices:	Up to July 25th		At The Gate
	Members	NonMembers	ALL
3-day	\$45.00	\$65.00	\$75.00
2-day	\$35.00	\$50.00	\$60.00
Sat 1-day	\$22.00	\$33.00	\$40.00
Fri/Sun 1-day	\$17.00	\$23.00	\$30.00

Seniors: \$3.00/day discount  
Youth (13-17) 50% discount  
Children (12 & under): Free  
Camping included with 2 & 3 day tickets only.

All ticket  
sales final

	Adult	Senior	Youth
3-day	_____	_____	_____
2-day	_____	_____	_____
Sat 1-day	_____	_____	_____
Fri/Sun 1-day	_____	_____	_____

Thursday night camping:

\$10 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RV hookups:

\$20 per night \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Advance ticket orders must be received by July 25th. Make checks payable to NCBS and mail to NCBS GOF, PO Box 20370, San Jose, CA 95160. Enclose a LARGE self-addressed, stamped envelope. Advance (only) GOF tickets may be charged to a credit card or PayPal at the NCBS website: www.ncbs.us where more information can also be found.

Free WiFi!

Bring Your FM Radio!



## Orrin Star May Workshops & Concerts



Orrin Star

Renowned picker and teacher Orrin Star returns to northern California in mid-May for a workshop & concert tour. Once described as 'Arlo Guthrie-meets-Doc Watson', Star was the 1976 National Flatpicking Champion, has appeared on A Prairie Home Companion, and is the author of "Hot Licks for Bluegrass Guitar", a popular flatpicking guide.

Thurs May 15 - SACRAMENTO, CA - Mando Workshop & mando-tasting party, 7:30pm. Contact: haljohnson@sbcglobal.net or 916-391-3042

Fri May 16 - SACRAMENTO, CA - Concert at the Fifth String (pending)

Sat May 17 - RENO, NV - Rhythm Guitar Workshop (3:30), House concert (7:30)

Sun May 18 - RENO, NV - Two Mandolin Workshops (10:30am & 2:00pm)

Mon May 19 - SACRAMENTO - Flatpicking Workshop, 7:30-9:45pm

Contact Matt: mbrussell@uccdavis.edu or 760-579-2429

Tue May 20 - BURLINGAME, CA - Flatpicking Workshop, 7:30-9:45pm, Steve Swan Guitars, 1519 Bay Shore Highway, 650-515-1014

Wed May 21 - BERKELEY, CA - Bluegrass Rhythm Guitar Workshop, 7:30-9:45pm The 5th String, 3051 Adeline, 510-548-8282

Thur May 22 - BERKELEY, CA - Mandolin Workshop (6:30-8pm) and Concert (8:30) The 5th String, 3051 Adeline, 510-548-8282

Sat May 24 - PALO ALTO, CA - Bluegrass Rhythm Guitar Workshop, Noon-2:30pm Gryphon Stringed Instruments, 211 Lambert, 650-493-2131

Sat May 24 CORTE MADERA, CA - House Concert, 8:00pm. Contact: gassman55@yahoo.com or 415-713-1791

For more complete information on all the above see the Schedule Page at [www.orrinstar.com](http://www.orrinstar.com)

## Join the Kids On Bluegrass

*From page B-1*

band along with others from the band happily join the kids on stage for a couple songs.

Today, the California Bluegrass Association has become very well known for the Kids on Bluegrass Program as well as other programs for kids. When performers from across the country come to perform here they often remark during their performances about how much the CBA does for their kids. These programs are not only important to us, but hopefully they will spread throughout all Bluegrass Associations.

Although the majority of kids come from all over our state, last year we had nine kids that joined us from Montana, Utah, and Idaho and the year before one even came from South Carolina! The Kids on Bluegrass program is always eagerly looking for new kids to come and join the program. One of the really great benefits of this program are the bonds and friendships that are made between the kids and although many of them live so far apart, the festivals and the Kids on Bluegrass seems to be a place where these kids connect in a special way. Working together, sharing together and teaching each other are regular occurrences. And their performances are wonderful!

Rehearsals begin on Thursday

morning at 10:00 A.M. in the Kids on Bluegrass camp of Frank Solivan. If you are at the fairgrounds prior to that please try to check in with Frank as soon as you can. The child will need to know how to play some songs or sing WITHOUT parental help have pretty good timing and be dedicated enough to be at all the rehearsals. Any exceptions can be discussed with Frank.

Over the past couple years the school districts have extended the school year making it difficult for some kids to get to the festival in time for Thursday rehearsal and Friday performance. So if you or your child really wants to take part in the Kids on Bluegrass program just ask your school to excuse your child early. You can accomplish this without your child being "absent" by talking to the teachers and setting up work that can be done and turned in prior to the festival. Most teachers will accept work that contains writing, history, music, etc. So having your child write about a previous year at the festival and/or their experience with the Kids on Bluegrass or just jamming with friends of all ages, is a great way for you and your kids to not miss any of the festival and these are all projects that schools will accept as class work for missing a few days of school. What a way for the kids to bring back memories of

years past! This is how we were able to bring our grandson for the past nine years!

If you still can't make it to that first or second rehearsal, check in with Frank anyway to see what can be worked out.

This year the Kids on Bluegrass area has moved. It is still in the tent camping area but is now right by the drainage ditch on the road where you enter through the gates. Hopefully by then, we will have our new Kids on Bluegrass banner that will be easily seen. Franks Solivans camp and trailer, where kids should check in, is right across the ditch in the non-tent camping area. You can always ask at the entrance gate but we should be easily seen.

If you have questions you can contact Frank Solivan at 408-656-8549 or you can e-mail me, Sharon Elliott, at [shickey6@yahoo.com](mailto:shickey6@yahoo.com).

This year's Kids on Bluegrass performances will take place on the main stage on Friday from 5:00 PM to 5:50 PM and on Saturday from 5:00 PM to 5:50 PM. Please help support the Kids on Bluegrass by filling the audience with your presence and your love!!!

## 30th anniversary of Prucha Bluegrass Instruments

*From page B-1*

certs their former home country Switzerland.

Club Mlejn Stodulky (the Mill) in Prague is about to become a famous bluegrass club. Hickory Project from Pennsylvania played there just two weeks before on March 1st. Their concert was in packed. The Czech band Monogram opened for them and returned at the end, both bands playing together. They showed us even four fiddles on stage, Sue Cunningham from HP invited Jirka Kralik, whose band Rowdy Rascals won 1st price at the EWOB festival in France 2007 as well as his American friend Lee Bidfood. What a night!

Next big concert there will be Tony Trischka with Druha Trava in May, part of their Czech five concert tour.

Other Tony Trischka & Druha Trava dates in May are:

23 Dehylov, Lodenice, [www.lodenice.com](http://www.lodenice.com), 19:30

24 Plzen, festival Lochotin 2008, [www.folkcountry.cz](http://www.folkcountry.cz), 18:30

25 Teplice, otevirani lazenske sezony, [www.dkteplce.cz](http://www.dkteplce.cz), 19:30

27 Praha, KD Mlejn, [www.mlejn.cz](http://www.mlejn.cz), 20:00

28 Brno, KD Musilka, [www.kso-mega.cz](http://www.kso-mega.cz), 19:30

29 Strakonice, festival Jamboree, [www.jamboree-cz.com](http://www.jamboree-cz.com), 22:00

Those are my latest news items at the moment. Best regards from your European correspondent, Lilly Pavlak in Bulach, April 7th, 2008.



Sue Cunningham and Jirka Kralik fiddle at a Prague performance. photo: Lilly Pavlak

**Do you have an instrument  
you're not playing that could  
make a child smile like this?**



Luke Davisson  
Photo by Bob Calkins

Many of us in the Bluegrass community have guitars, fiddles, mandolins, banjos, basses et.al in our homes that are (1) no longer being played; (2) that we never got around to learning to play; or (3) that were put aside when a new one was purchased.

If this description fits you, won't you please consider donating your usable acoustic instrument to the Darrell

Johnston Kids Instrument Lending Library? There are many families with young children that would like to learn to play the music we all love, but who can't afford to purchase an instrument for the young would-be musicians.

If you would like more information or would like to donate an instrument please contact:

**Sharon or Steve Elliott at 510-728-7613  
or email [kidslendinglibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:kidslendinglibrary@yahoo.com)**



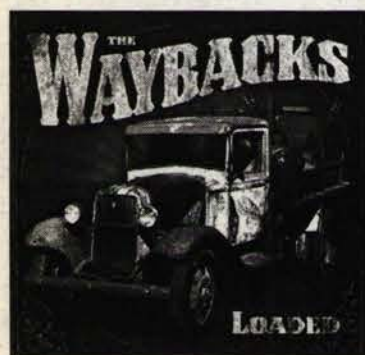
# CD Review

By Deirdre Donovan

## Loaded - The Waybacks

Compass Records  
916 19th Avenue South  
Nashville, TN  
www.compass.records.com

**Song list:** City Boy, Nice To Be Alone, The River, Good Enough, Loaded, Savannah, Conjugal Visit, Tired Of Being Right, Lowdown, Beyond The Northwest Passage, Black Cat, Russell County Gorge



Loaded with gems, the first all original Waybacks CD, this album is aptly named. Throughout its history, the band has played in territory far from strictly bluegrass, and this labor of love certainly follows in that tradition. Since the addition of Texas fiddler and songwriter Warren Hood, the band has augmented its expansive repertoire with a truly authentic swing feel. The distinctive Waybacks' sound has not been lost, and a whole new dimension is apparent in the music. The CD showcases the songwriting of Hood, and guitar and mandolin player, James Nash, with only one instrumental out of the 11 tunes on the CD. Bassist Joe Kyle, Jr., and drummer Chuck Hamilton create a solid rhythmic foundation for traversing this new terrain. Producer Byron House's able hand on the controls is evident, while a stellar guest cast of Nashville musicians, including Sam Bush, Cindy Cashdollar, and Fats Kaplin, among others, provides extra richness in the mix.

The songs are characterized by mellifluous vocals, rich harmonies, pulsing bass lines, pulse-pounding lead playing, and evocative stories. Some lyrics tend toward the philosophical, as in the rocking Conjugal Visit and the call to arms of Good Enough, while Beyond The Northwest Passage, City Boy, Loaded, and Russell County Gorge tell surprising tales of inner and outer adventure. On Black Cat, the album's single instrumental, Hood's soaring fiddle travels from Paganini aria to stomping fiddle tune and back again, surrounded by the virtuosity of the rest of the band. Swing aficionados will be right at home with Savannah, Nice To Be Alone, and Tired Of Being Right, while Lowdown brings the best

of the blues forward into the 21st century. The versatility and skill of the band shines throughout, and both new and long-time fans will be pleased with the Waybacks' fifth album, available on March 25th, at <http://www.waybacks.com/merch>.

# CD Review By George Ireton

From page B-2

that she was able to grow her craft exponentially based on a friendly tip from Frank Sinatra. He emphasized the importance of completely finishing each word in the song as well as the duration of each musical note. Wayne Taylor does the

same thing. Whether we realize it or not, that kind of clarity magnifies our enjoyment of the music because we don't have to struggle to understand the lyrics!

When combined with the virtuosity of the other career professional musicians on this project, the result is a thoroughly entertain-

ing and satisfying listen. This kind of dedication and pure artistry deserves to be rewarded. Take this opportunity to visit [www.waynec-taylor.com](http://www.waynec-taylor.com) and order your own copy of "Dear Mom". Give it a good, deep listen. You are sure to be blessed!

## Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Kamps

June 8-15: Bluegrass Banjo, Fingerpicking,

Fiddle, Bass, Dobro™, Old Time Banjo

June 15-22: Flatpicking and Mandolin



**Week 1: Bluegrass Banjo:** Bob Black, Gary Davis, Janet Davis, Casey Henry and Murphy Henry

**Fingerpick:** Pete Huttlinger and T.J. Wheeler; **Bass-** Rusty Holloway and Missy Raines

**Fiddle:** Bobby Hicks and Barbara Lamb;

**Dobro™:** Doug Cox and Stacy Phillips **Old Time Banjo:** Laura Boosinger and Jim Pankey

**Week 2: Flatpick:** Russ Barenberg, Kathy Barwick, Mitch Corbin, Mark Cosgrove, Beppe Gambetta, John Goldie, Cindy Gray, Chris Jones, Steve Kaufman, Chris Newman and Keith Yoder

**Mandolin:** Carlo Aonzo, Butch Baldassari, Robin Bullock, David Harvey, Emory Lester, Don Stiernberg and Roland White

**Call 800-FLATPIK - 865-982-3808 to Register**

**A Musical Event Like None Other**

*Specially designed for Ultra-Beginners through Professional*

*Located On The Campus of Maryville College in Maryville, TN*

*17 mi. So. of Knoxville, TN.*

**Call or Write for your Kamp Brochure**

**Your \$750.00 Paid Registration Entitles You To:**

- \* Rotating 2 Hour Classes with ALL of the Main Teachers
- \* All Meals and Lodging (Companion Packages available)
- \* Structured Slow and Afternoon Medium Group Jam Periods
- \* Master Classes and Afternoon Focused Panel Sessions
- \* Ensemble Work, Open Mike Time, Afternoon and Nightly Jams
- \* Admission to All The Nightly Concerts
- \* On Grounds "Kamp Doctors" Bryan Kimsey, Jim Grainger and Ken Miller

**Gold Award Winning**

*More Classes*

*More Education*

*More Fun More Friends*

*Scholarships Available*

*Join us in June!*

**We'd like to thank Weber Mandolins, Collings Guitars, Ken Miller Guitars and Deering Banjos for donating instruments for our big Door Prize Give Away! More to be added!**



**Gold Award Every  
Year since 2002**

**Limited Spaces -Registrations and Kamp Info: [www.flatpik.com](http://www.flatpik.com)**

**Register On-Line Register Today**

**Steve Kaufman's Acoustic Kamp**

**PO Box 1020, Alcoa, TN 37701**

**865-982-3808 (Operator's and Tape Machines are Standing By 24 hours)**

**800 - FLATPIK [steve@flatpik.com](mailto:steve@flatpik.com) [www.flatpik.com](http://www.flatpik.com)**

**Don't Sleep Through This Opportunity!**

Interested in being a corporate sponsor? Write [steve@flatpik.com](mailto:steve@flatpik.com) to find out how.

**The 2008 Kamp Series is Sponsored in part by ~** Acoustic Guitar Magazine, Collings Guitars,

Comp-U-Chem, Deering Banjos, D'Addario Strings, DR Strings, Elm Hill Meats, Fishman Transducers,

Flatpicking Guitar Magazine, Gold Tone, Heritage Instrument Insurance, Homespun Tapes, Huss and Dalton Guitars, Janet Davis Music, Mandolin Magazine, Martin Guitars, Mass Street Music, Mel Bay Publications, Naugler Guitars, PicKing, Pick 'N Grin, Shubb Capos, Taylor Guitars, Waverly Tuning Machines, Weber Mandolins and Wood-N-Strings





# CBA Spring Campout 2008

From page B-1  
fun listening to see if they would somehow get to the same place in the song and play for me in stereo. It didn't happen but it was fun none the less.

I got to meet quite a few new people and I look forward to getting together with them again sometime. Lots of talk was of where

we were going next in our bluegrass journeys. Some will be at Parkfield for their festival on Mother's Day weekend. Unfortunately I can't do that one. But lots and lots of people are looking forward to the CBA Father's Day Festival in Grass Valley, as am I.

Sunday morning was the monthly CBA Board Meeting.

There was an open invitation for the general membership to attend, as is tradition at the Spring and Fall camp-outs. We had a good turn out, with lots of good discussion. The meeting adjourned in record time, as many of us needed to get home to prepare for the coming week. I hated coming out of the meeting and finding half of our lit-

tle village had packed up and left. It is my least favorite part of any festival or camp out. I just want these gatherings to last forever. Oh well... until I figure out a way to make that happen, it's time to get back to real life, including finishing the planning and implementation of the next festival - Grass Valley here we come!

Campout organizer, Bob Thomas had a few words to say, too. "I greatly appreciate the help of Dorothy and Bob McCoy, and of Judy and Don Pemberton for their work at the gate. I also appreciate the work of Steve Tilden for his help in many ways."

Thanks for a great weekend of Bluegrass and Friendship. Bluegrass Hugs to All.

## Staten Island Hornpipe

Go to [www.flatpik.com/low.cgi](http://www.flatpik.com/low.cgi) to listen to this song

Arr. by Steve Kaufman

Key of D

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### 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 suite 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; email [bevan@nativeandfine.com](mailto:bevan@nativeandfine.com).

**LEARN BLUEGRASS MANDOLIN WITH TOM BEKENY.** Beginner, intermediate, and advanced students welcome. Contact Tom at [tombekeny@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tombekeny@sbcglobal.net), 510-528-4039

**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 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 complement 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.

**YOU SHOULD  
ADVERTISE WITH  
US, BUBBA!**





# Bluegrass Music Festival

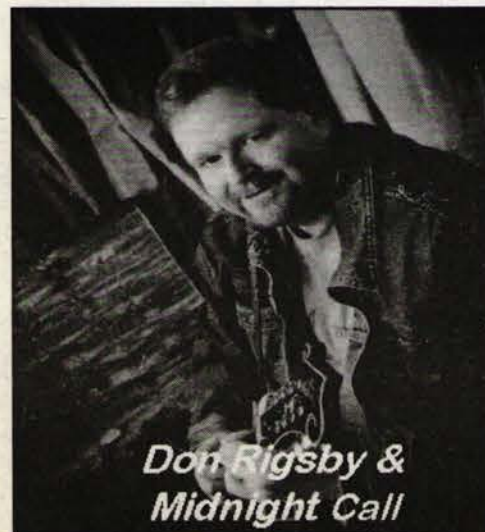
## August 22-23-24, 2008

Held in VISTA, CA.

at the Fascinating 40-acre Outdoor

### ANTIQUE GAS & STEAM ENGINE MUSEUM

2040 N. Santa Fe Ave. Avenue, Vista CA 92083



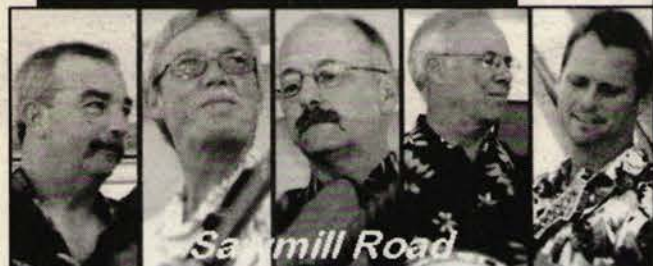
*Don Rigsby &  
Midnight Call*



*Bluegrass Etc.*



*The Infamous Stringdusters*



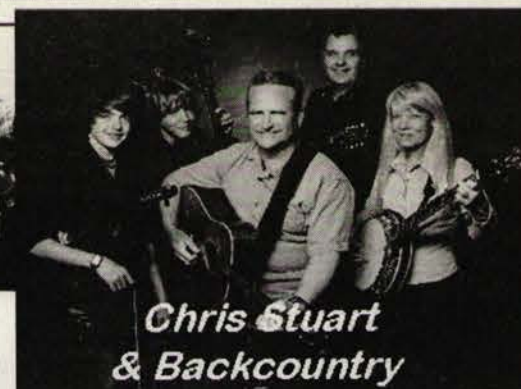
*Sawmill Road*



*Pacific  
Ocean  
Bluegrass*



*Grateful  
Hooligans*



*Chris Stuart  
& Backcountry*



*Burnett Family Bluegrass*



*Virtual Strangers*



*Lighthouse*



*Superstrings*

3Days • Exciting Bands!  
Great Music & Family Fun!  
Tasty Food • Jamming  
Music Workshops!  
Kid's Activities!  
Kid's Music Camp!  
Music & Craft Vendors  
Instrument Raffles!  
Dry Camping



*Highway 76*

**TICKETS\*** Available in Advance (online, by Mail, or at select San Diego County locations)

	Event Hours	at Gate	in Advance
FRI	3-10 pm	\$17	\$15
SAT	10-10 pm	\$20	\$18
SUN	9 - 6 pm	\$17	\$15
3-DAY Pass		\$54	\$48

(additional fee for camping)

**KIDS:** 10 & under **FREE** (with adult)

**Day Parking:** \$2 at gate (funds the Museum)

**Gates Open:** 1 hour before show starts

**Bring:** Hats, sunscreen, lawn chairs

**NO PETS:** (unless camping - see camping info online or on flyer).



**INFO: [www.summergrass.net](http://www.summergrass.net) ★ 858-679-4854**



## The Earl Brothers

/G/G/G/G/C/C/G/G/  
/G/G/G/G/G/D/G/G/



For more information about the Parkfield Bluegrass Festival 2008, and for tickets, please see our website at [www.parkfieldbluegrass.com](http://www.parkfieldbluegrass.com), or call (805) 725-3060. And hey! We can now take your order by credit card. See you in the boondocks May 8th-11th!



# REVIEWS by Brenda Hough - Getting Ready for Festival Season

In spring, a young man's fancy may turn to the ladies, but a bluegrassers' thoughts turn to festivals and getting ready for summer jamming. Maybe you've thought about learning to play a new instrument, improve your skills on an old one or maybe learn to sing like your favorite stars. Here's a selection of learning tools to make your skills shine!

## Homespun Tapes

Box 340  
Woodstock, NY 12498  
www.homespun.com  
1-800-338-2737

Homespun Tapes was started by musicians Happy and Jane Traum, and over the years they have produced cassette tape (remember those?) and printed tab books and now are providing DVD instructional materials featuring the finest musicians. While their emphasis remains acoustic music, the company does have instructional videos for electric guitar and drums.

## Peter Rowan and Tony Rice Teach Songs, Guitar and Musicianship

**Songs taught:** You Were There For Me, Dustbowl Children, Let The Harvest Go To Seed, Angel Island, Come Back to Old Santa Fe, Panama Red.

Tony Rice and Peter Rowan have had long careers in music and each has developed divergent guitar styles. Peter started as one of Bill Monroe's Bluegrass Boys, and later became part of the classic band Old and in the Way with David Grisman and Jerry Garcia. Tony played with the Bluegrass Alliance, the David Grisman Quintet and had a long solo career. In the last few years, they have collaborated on two albums, 2004's *You Were There For Me*, and last year's *Quartet*. Peter Rowan wrote several of the songs for the two albums, and his soaring heartfelt vocals were easily matched with fluid and magical guitar passages from Tony.

Homespun founder Happy Traum sat down with Tony and Peter and explored their musical collaboration and the guitar techniques that both employed to get the unique blends on the albums.

Happy gets Tony to discuss his chord inversions and picking patterns and gets Peter and Tony to discuss how their guitar parts fit together. The split screens isolate the right and left hands and a third screen also features Peter's vocals. There are also electronically slowed-down solos to allow detailed study. Even if you are not a guitarist, the opportunity to watch Peter and Tony weave guitar accompaniment to match the songs and each other's playing is a delight to see.

## Mike Marshall's Mandolin Fundamentals For All Players:

Volume 1: Building Technique Through Exercises and Melodic Studies  
Volume 2: Mastering Chords and Theory

Mike Marshall's musical skills encompass many styles and instrumentals. He is equally at ease on mandolin, guitar and violin, and his mastery of swing, Brazilian, jazz, classical and bluegrass music make him a popular accompanist and band member on many recordings. He is also an active instructor at symposiums and workshops. His knowledge of musical theory and the mandolin are shared on these two videos and are a "must-have" for any student of the mandolin, regardless of the style of music you favor.

Video 1 gives the learner a thorough introduction to the mandolin beginning with the proper pick grip and movement over the strings. Mike is very careful to define down and up pick directions and control of the volume and speed while playing. Speed and dexterity are developed through exercises that span the four strings in different patterns. The accompanying tab book shows the patterns visually, but Mike is very clear with his directions so using the booklet is only for additional practice. After focusing on the right hand, he moves to the left hand and carefully explains the note and scale progressions on the strings. "Fingerbuster" exercises will develop strength and dexterity and Mike explains the chord shapes and note patterns and gives playing patterns that can be used for practice. Arpeggio triads and pivot strokes are key to developing good tone and speed.

Video 2 continues the instruction and focuses on chord patterns and the musical theory knowledge needed to construct them in all positions on the keyboard. Mike starts with the simplest two finger chord shapes and then adds additional fretted notes to build inversions up the neck. He explains the melodic changes needed to produce minor chords, as well as major 7ths, dominant 7ths, 6ths, flat-5, suspended and diminished chords. Most importantly, he gives examples of when these chords would be needed to play certain

songs. Changing from one chord to another also helps to change the tension or mood of a song and the various combinations and rhythms help define genres such as bluegrass, jazz or swing music. If you want to become more proficient on the mandolin, these videos are a wonderful source of information.

## Mel Bay/The Murphy Method

www.murphymethod.com  
1-800-227-2357  
www.melbay.com

Murphy and Red Henry have produced many bluegrass instructional videos over the years featuring Murphy on guitar and banjo and their children Casey on banjo and Chris on mandolin. Other bluegrass artists have been featured on dobro and bass lessons. Mel Bay is now distributing the Murphy Method videos so they are now available at more retail locations as well as on the web.

## Marshall Wilborn and Murphy Henry: Intermediate Bass

This two-hour instructional lesson is a follow-up to the Beginning Bass video with Marshall and Murphy. Murphy is proud to present "bluegrass by ear" so great care is taken to provide close-ups and detailed explanation of the notes and hand positions. Murphy begins each song with a discussion of the chord progression in the key and then Marshall explains the bass runs used to augment the chord patterns. He is careful to name each note as it is played and then the sequence is repeated so the learner can practice the same segments before sequencing the series of runs to make a song.

Songs taught include "Lonesome Road Blues," "John Hardy" and "In the Pines" in the key of G with an additional lesson about waltz time with "In the Pines." "Amazing Grace" is performed in the key of C, "Bury Me Beneath The Willow" is the key of B, and "Somebody Touched Me" is the key of A. Another teaching segment demonstrates a "Boogie Woogie" rhythm and progression on the bass, and Murphy and Marshall explain the musical theory behind the bass notes played and how these notes relate to the notes in a scale and construction of a chord. Other instrumentalists will find the information useful to the learning of music theory.

## Mark Panfill and Murphy Henry: Beginning Dobro

Mark Panfill's dobro instruction video is very carefully constructed to give the beginner maximum practice and clear directions. Mark begins with tun-

ing and proper holding of the bar and pick placement on three fingers. The close-ups showing the right hand rolls are placed against a black cloth to make it visually easy to follow. Mark explains the first forward roll pattern of three notes and chord strumming with the first song, "Boil Them Cabbage Down." He repeats the melody phrase by phrase and encourages the learner to practice by listening, repeating and learning the song without writing anything down.

The song is always introduced with guitar and dobro, and after each phrase-by-phrase lesson, Mark and Murphy play the song together with solos alternating with vocals and chording. Other songs included in the instructional video are "Skip to My Lou," "Old Joe Clark" which includes learning to slide the bar to get notes, "Amazing Grace" in 3/4 time, "Wabash Cannonball" and "Worried Man." The video is certainly worth finding for a beginning dobro player.

## Murphy Henry: Bluegrass Rhythm Guitar Vol. 1

Murphy Henry presents some popular folk/bluegrass tunes to teach bass runs for the keys of C and G. The runs are presented within the songs and Murphy connects the pattern to the chords so that they can be transferred to other songs. As usual with all her teaching materials, Murphy stresses learning the patterns by ear and not by looking at any written tablature. The songs taught on the video are "Lonesome Road Blues," "Bury Me Beneath The Willow," "Thinking Tonight of My Blue Eyes," and "Wabash Cannonball" in the key of G, and the key of C songs are "Will the Circle Be Unbroken," "The Crowded Song," "Worried Man," and "Sitting On Top of the World." Murphy also gives hints about changing keys to suit a vocal range.

## Other DVDs For Listening

### Josh Williams, Andy Falco & Chris Eldridge: Live At the Station Inn

FGM Records  
PO Box 2160  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
1-800-413-8296  
www.fgmrecords.com

**Performance list:** Cherokee Shuffle, East Tennessee Blues, Old Grimes, Willows Waltz, Chinquapin Hunting, Blue Moon Shine, Bill Cheatum, Cattle in the Cane, Sittin' On Top of the World, Lyons, Across the Great Divide, Missing You, Jesse James, Nine Pound Hammer, Salt Creek.

FGM Record's Dan Miller is also the publisher of *Flatpicking Guitar Magazine*, and the com-

pany's devotion to the flatpicked guitar is celebrated in this one hour live show at the famous Nashville venue, The Station Inn. Three young guitar stars are featured: Josh Williams of Rhonda Vincent and the Rage, Andy Falco of the Infamous Stringdusters and Alecia Nugent Band, and Chris Eldridge who grew up playing with the Seldom Scene and is now one of the Punch Brothers with Chris Thile.

All three musicians have impressive guitar skills and as they perform the "bluegrass standards" and original tunes on the video, the camera moves in close to highlight their hand positions and wrist movements as they play. Each of the players performs some of his own favorite tunes and Chris and Josh pay tribute to Tony Rice in the original "Blue Moon Shine." Guitarists will also be interested in the discussion about guitar makers and materials. Chris calls his '54 Martin D28 "Uncle Johnny," Josh's Kendrick guitar is named Chigger, and Andy's Martin D28 is named Heinz because it's a 57 (57 Varieties is a trademark of Heinz ketchup). A highlight of the show is Andy's bluesy version of "Sitting On Top of the World." An excellent production and delight for guitar fans.

## Marty Lanham: Getting To Know Your Acoustic Guitar

Acutab Publications  
PO Box 21016  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
www.acutab.com  
c.2008

Marty Lanham is a Nashville-based guitar repairman and luthier and many of the top musicians in Nashville are delighted with his fine guitars and excellent craftsmanship. In this video visit to Marty's workshop, Marty displays the finer points of guitar construction, sound production and maintenance.

Marty begins by identifying all the component parts of the guitar including neck assembly and attachment to the body and how to spot problems in the neck action and neck resetting. Marty also discusses fret and bridge adjustments as well as a caution not to leave a guitar in a car on either hot or cold days. Several in progress guitars are shown in close-ups to demonstrate proper adjustments and suggestions for checking a guitar's quality before purchase. While there is a lot of information on the video, the two hour length might be too long for someone just learning to evaluate a new guitar purchase, and no mention is made of a guitar's construction in Marty's shop. A useful feature that could have been included is the effect of different kinds of construction woods on a guitar's sound with audio clip demonstrations.

**YOU SHOULD  
ADVERTISE WITH  
US, BUBBA!**



# RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough



Brenda Hough

## Punch Brothers: Punch

Nonesuch Records  
1290 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10104  
www.punchbrothers.com  
c.2008

**Song list:** Punch Bowl, The Blind Leading the Blind, Movements 1, 2, 3, 4, Sometimes, Nothing Then, It'll Happen.

Chris Thile's prowess on the mandolin has amazed music lovers since his first solo album at the age of 13, and his legion of fans grew as he performed with the band Nickel Creek. Chris is now back with a new band, Punch Brothers, and he has surrounded himself with a fine cadre of young, progressive players.

Guitarist Chris Eldridge was part of the Infamous Stringdusters and played with his father's band, the Seldom Scene. Banjo player Noam Pikelnny and bassist Greg Garrison were both part of the Leftover Salmon band. Fiddler Gabe Witcher was part of the Southern California bluegrass family band the Witcher Brothers, and he is a life-long friend of Chris' and has recorded on many albums and movies.

It would be a stretch to call this a bluegrass album, but all of the band members have a firm base in bluegrass. Elements of jazz and classical music are fused into the finished pieces with Chris and the band members composing all of the songs.

"The Blind Leaving the Blind" is an opus piece; four movements with classical roots and motifs but with a grounding in folk music and the classic bluegrass ensemble of mandolin, guitar, banjo, fiddle and bass. Chris had started the composition and as the band formed, members of the band added riffs and solos so that the piece has tightly constructed melodies followed by soaring solos. Chris' mandolin of course is at the forefront, and his ability to fuse frenetic flurries of notes with tender melodic themes is apparent throughout the four movements. The lyrics echo events in Chris' own life and can be a painful reminder of the loss of love and the slow resumption of life and hope. There are images of waking up alone, gathering friends and courage at a bar and intriguing images: "goodwill's coming by to collect a box I filled with things I hate about myself" and "I'm coming back my friends from the deep and bitter end."

The band's name comes from a Mark Twain recollection in a story of a subway sign: "Punch brothers! Punch with care! Punch in the presence of the passenjare." Conductors punched subway tickets at the start of the ride, and our Punch Brothers have just validated our tickets for a musical journey. (Did we say Magical Mystery Tour?)

## Adcock, Gaudreau, Waller & Gray: The Country Gentlemen Reunion Band

Radio Therapy Records  
PO Box 219  
Lebanon, TN 37088  
2adcocks@bellsouth.net  
c.2008

**Song list:** Widow of the Glade, I Hope You Have Learned, White Line Fever, country Poor and Country Proud, Grave in the Valley, El doggo, Little Box of Pine, Sundown and Sorrow, Will There Ever Be Another, Sweet Georgia Brown, Down by the Old Trout Stream, Some Old Day, Twenty One Miles.

The Country Gentlemen were one of the first bands to break bluegrass music out of its country "hill-billy" roots and appeal to a wider audience. Amazingly, the band has been around for 50 years now and the four musicians on this album have all been part of the band. Eddie Adcock (banjo) and Tom Gray (bass) are the two surviving members of the classic Gentlemen band and they are joined by Jimmy Gaudreau who replaced original Gentleman John Duffey on mandolin and Randy Waller, son of original member Charlie Waller (guitar) who is now carrying on with the current Country Gentlemen band.

The original band was known for its rich instrumentation and vocal harmonies. Eddie Adcock has produced this album, and the recording showcases a fine set of songs. The lead song, "Widow of the Glade" written by Randall Hylton, has all the ghost-story believability of the Gentlemen hit "Bringing Mary Home" combined with instrumental punctuation on banjo and mandolin. Randy's lead vocal is superb, and he has been blessed with a voice that has a full richness and depth with an uncanny similarity to Charlie Waller's. Merle Haggard's "White Line Fever" has three part harmonies from Eddie, Jimmy and Tom that soars and flows through the story of a man who loves the open road. Jimmy wrote "El Doggo" and his mandolin playing and Eddie's banjo give the song a bounce and verve. "Little Box of Pine" has banjo and mandolin leads framing Randy's lead vocal. "Some Old Day" is a bluegrass favorite and the band has the great blend of voices and instruments that nail that bluegrass feeling. Wonderful songs, great singing and perfect instrumentation — a must get!

## Longview: Deep in the Mountains

Rounder Records  
One Rounder Way  
Burlington, MA 01803  
c. 2008  
www.rounder.com

**Song list:** Eating Out of Your Hand, Weathered Grey Stone, Room at the Top of the Stairs, Don't Leave Me Alone, Old Log Cabin, Cotton Eyed Joe, I'll Love Nobody But You, Baptism of Jesse Taylor, I'm Gonna Love You One More Time, At the First Fall of Snow, I Love You Yet, Georgia Bound

Longview started as a birthday request of Rounder Records founder Ken Irwin ten years ago. He gathered Don Rigsby, James King, Dudley Connell, Marshall Wilborn, Joe Mullins and Glen Duncan to form a "super band" for a special recording. The band won the 1998 IBMA Song of the Year and Recorded Event of the Year awards and the rest, so they say, is history. While each of the band members has other bands, the bluegrass magic always appears whenever they are together.

The band now has new members, but the addition of Lou Reid, banjo player J.D. Crowe and Ron Stewart does nothing to diminish the power of the band but adds to the overall instrumental prowess. Lou Reid ably takes the tenor vocal role vacated by Dudley Connell, and his trio harmonies with James King and Don Rigsby remain one of the hallmarks of the band.

Don Rigsby has one of those signature tenor voices that can soar into the high lonesome territory and he ably demonstrates his heartfelt story telling skills in "Room at the Top of the Stairs." His mandolin punches out the lead in "Old Log Cabin," a welcome addition to the plethora of cabin home songs. James King is a stellar vocalist, and his gravelly baritone is filled with deep feeling in "Weathered Grey Stone," a song with the classic bluegrass stacked harmonies with Lou, James and Don. Ron Stewart's fine fiddle playing leads off the instrumental "Cotton Eyed Joe," which also has J.D. Crowe's banjo and Don's mandolin adding extra punch. J.D. also adds a baritone harmony vocal to Lou's lead on the Jim McReynolds' song, "I'll Love Nobody But You." It's perfect bluegrass and the band members take care to make the formula work: the team plays together and each song is a carefully choreographed segment with melded voices and blended instrumentation. Don proclaims, "The whole is no greater than the sum of its parts. If I can't make them sound good, they're not going to be able to make me sound good. That's bluegrass physics."

## Gibson Brothers: Iron & Diamonds

Sugar Hill Records Media  
120 31st Avenue N  
Nashville, TN 37203  
c.2008  
www.sugarhillrecords.com

**Song list:** Cabin Down Below, Iron & Diamonds, One Step

Closer to the Grave, The Other Side of Town, Somewhere Trouble Don't Go, Lonely Me Lonely You, Picker's Blues, A World So Full of Love, Angry Man, Bloom Off The Rose, Long Way Down, Gone Home.

Leigh and Eric Gibson have been singing together since their childhoods in upstate New York. Their tight vocal harmonies are reminiscent of the Louvin Brothers, but their true gift is their ability to craft songs that honor the bluegrass tradition while sounding contemporary and relevant. Leigh plays the guitar and Eric plays the banjo in the band. They are joined by Junior Barber on resonator guitar, Mike Barber on bass, Clayton Campbell on fiddle and Rick Hayes on mandolin.

"Iron and Diamonds" is a reflection of the lives of the iron miners who worked "six days to the company, one to the man above," and an afternoon given to the ball and glove. Leigh's banjo, Eric's guitar and Clayton's fiddle provide a mournful backdrop to this story of miners whose lives were ceaseless toil for the iron in the mountains and the few hours of joy on the baseball diamond.

"One Step Closer to the Grave" has that urgency in the vocal that sounds like Del McCoury's "Get On Board." Rick Hayes takes several mandolin leads in the song and Leigh's guitar takes a balancing role. "Lonely Me, Lonely You" has that tight brother harmony that has touches of the Everly Brothers and Louvin Brothers blend. "Angry Man" has some excellent guitar playing and a lyric that questions if "mankind's gone out of whack." The brothers have also found songs from other writers to showcase. "Somewhere Trouble Don't Go" is a Julie Miller original and the brothers give it a strong percussive feel as the story of temptation and resistance unfolds. The album ends with a Hee Haw (yes, really) favorite and Bill Carlisle classic, "Gone Home" that the brothers harmonize with Erin LaClair. With each new album, the brothers get better and better!

## Southern Skye: Midnight Run

Mastershield Records  
Bridgewater, Virginia 22812  
c.2008  
www.mastershieldrecords.com

**Song list:** Lonely Here Tonight, The Bayou Song, These Old Blues, Hold Me, Blueridge Cabin Home, Because of You, Speak to Me Oh Mountain, Satan Oh Satan, Bluegrass Up in Heaven, How Mountain Girls Can Love, Midnight Run, Blue Night For Me.

Southern Skye is an up and coming band based in Kentucky. Their instrumental and vocal skills

are top-notch considering all of them are still teenagers. Alex Hensley is the lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist, and her strong presence gives the band a warmth and maturity. She gives Stacey Smith's "Blue Night For Me" with its barroom sorrows a touch of wisdom. Her rendition of Mary Jenkins' "Hold Me" is bound to be a gospel classic with its tender harmonies and melodic fiddle and mandolin. Alex Leach is the other lead singer in the band, and his lead vocal on "Blue Ridge Cabin Home" rings true in the bluegrass tradition. Alex also adds crisp mandolin chops and solos to the band's sound. Ben Jenkins is a versatile musician, playing banjo and dobro and adding harmony vocals. Ben also wrote the instrumental "Midnight Run" and his sparkling banjo propels the main melody line. Anchoring the band's rhythm is Chris Risner on bass.

Other worthy songs on the album include two more written by Mary Jenkins. "Satan Oh Satan" has Alex Leach taking the lead and his intonation resembles Ralph Stanley's best gospel sound. "Bluegrass Up In Heaven" is a marvelous catalog and reminder of the bluegrass founders and the great "heavenly band" with Bill, Lester, Jimmy, Don and Vassar. The future looks bright for this new young band.

## Robert Bowlin: Six String Soliloquy

FGM Records  
PO Box 2160  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
c. 2008  
www.fgmrecords.com

**Song list:** Maybelle, The Rain in Spain, East Tennessee Blues, I Dream of Jeanie/Old Kentucky, Home, Pokeberry Jam, On the Border, Eastland Dream, New Freedom, Theme and Improvisation, He Leadeth Me, Eleven Point Sunset, Rose Room, Durango Tango, Whiskey Before Breakfast, Butterflies, Marita Del Rey.

Taste and timing are the hallmarks of guitar music, and Robert Bowlin's technique brings out all the wonderful sounds in a melody and that magical wooden box we call a guitar. The melody notes ring clear and true, and the sup-

Continued on B-10



# RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough



Brenda Hough

From page B-9  
 porting notes provide an underlying sustain that eases the mind and soothes the ear. His music is the aural therapy – rich, warm and the background sounds to dreams in happy places.

Eleven of the 16 songs are original compositions, and most are the melodic ramblings sometimes called “new age” music. There’s an undercurrent of rhythm that makes “Pokeberry Jam” a candidate for a interpretive dance and there’s a lilt and beat to “Durango Tango” that could inspire “Dancing with the Stars.” Even familiar tunes like “Whisky Before Breakfast” are transformed through Robert’s mastery and the beautiful tone of his custom 1976 Thomas Anton Bednark guitar. Take this CD and some fresh fruit and beverage to a beach at sunset and be happy you’re alive!

## Joe Ross: Bluegrass Alphabet

Zephyr Records  
 170 Loreda Drive  
 Roseburg, OR 97470  
[www.talentondisplay.com/joeross-home.html](http://www.talentondisplay.com/joeross-home.html)  
[rossjoe@hotmail.com](mailto:rossjoe@hotmail.com)  
 c. 2007

Song list: Bluegrass Alphabet,

**The Place Where I Was Born, The Loneliest Season, One Day Soon, Down and Out, Sad and Lonely, My Desert Home, She Has A Gypsy Heart, Canyon of Sorrows, God Has All the Answers, You Can Make A Difference, Tomorrow's Yesterday, My Bonnie.**

Joe Ross is one of bluegrass music's top reviewers and with this new CD, he proves that he can write catchy, melodic songs that will make the listener want to dance and sing along. Joe's skill with words and melodies makes this a collection of engaging songs with messages of home, love and life's journey. “Bluegrass Alphabet” is a clever catalog of some of bluegrass music's familiar words: Appalachia, Bill Monroe, Cabin and Dobro, Emotions, Festival and so on....” Joe can put nostalgia in the forefront with a winsome look at “The Place Where I Was Born” and he celebrates “My Desert Home” with a series of images that paints the flamey sky, sagebrush and faithful pony with a warm glow.

“The Loneliest Season” has warm vocal harmonies blending with Joe's baritone and a loping rhythm that evokes the easy riding cowboy style. “One Day Soon (The Sun Will Shine)” has Joe trading parts with a chorus that celebrates

the joy of embracing life's possibilities. A rollicking banjo kickoff sends up another Joe Ross original, “Down and Out, Sad and Lonely,” with a cascade of mandolin fills and dobro embellishments providing a bluegrass musical setting for a tale of “some think it's bad luck, just no luck at all.” Joe is not afraid to put his convictions into a message. “You Can Make A Difference” is a call to Americans to be part of the solution and not the problem and is graced with the talents of James King, Al Brinkerhoff and Randy Kohrs. “Tomorrow's Yesterday” is a wonderfully gentle love song that should be sung on everyone's wedding anniversary. “My Bonnie” is an old traditional folk song transposed to a Far Eastern setting complete with flutes and koto. Joe has traveled from West to East and back again and we can join him on the journey.

## Jimmy Gaudreau & Moondi Klein: 2:10 Train

Rebel Records  
 PO Box 7405  
 Charlottesville, VA 22906  
 c.2008  
[www.rebelrecords.com](http://www.rebelrecords.com)

Song list: Dreamer or Believer, The Last Thing on My Mind, High Sierra, Sweet Sunny South, Arkansas Traveler/Soldier's Joy, And the Band Played ‘Waltzing Matilda,’ Black Jack Davey, Colleen Malone, Evening, Dixie Hoedown, Any Old time, 2:10 Train, Shady Grove.

Jimmy Gaudreau and Moondi Klein have long pedigrees in bluegrass. They have spent time in some of the premier groups – The Seldom Scene, The Country Gentlemen, J.D. Crowe, Tony Rice Unit and Spectrum, before joining forces in the band Chesapeake. Moondi took time off to be with his family, and a get together in England with Jimmy spurred the two to record some favorite songs in the duo format with guitar and mandolin. The song selection includes some stunning love songs, classic traditional songs and a few superb instrumentals.

It's a full sound with Moondi's lead vocals and Jimmy's harmonies plus a magical blend of Moondi's

guitar and Jimmy's mandolin. Harley Allen's “High Sierra” has Moondi's soaring lead flowing over the words “I've been higher than the high Sierras, lower than Death Valley must be,” and the mandolin and guitar filling in all the empty spaces. Harvey Reid's “Dreamer or Believer” is a traveling song with a perfect hook: “he's got no troubles that a dollar wouldn't cure.” “Colleen Malone” is the classic Hot Rize song, and Moondi and Jimmy's performance is picture perfect and has some of the nicest crosspicking to be found on mandolin and guitar.

“Evening” is a bluesy Mitchell Parish song with a great swing guitar rhythm coupled with some heartfelt singing from Moondi. Jim and Jesse McReynolds wrote the crosspicking mandolin classic “Dixie Hoedown” and Jimmy and Moondi add all the bells and whistles to strut their stuff. “Shady Grove” was transposed to the key of B minor and the Celtic feel is emphasized with Jimmy's use of a capo on his mandolin (an unusual configuration). The whole is greater than the sum of its parts, and this album gets my vote for duo album of the year!

## Lone Prairie: Back on the Dusty Trail

505 Laverne Avenue  
 Aptos, CA 95003  
[www.loneprairieband.com](http://www.loneprairieband.com)  
 c. 2008

Song list: One More Ride, Back on the Dusty Trail, Whoopee Ti Yi Yo, The Girl From the Red Rose Saloon, Song of the Bandit, The Everlasting Hills of Oklahoma, Junior and Ujessie, I Wonder If She Waits, Sky Ball Paint, Tumblin' Tumbleweeds, Goodbye Ol' Pal, The Waltz You Saved For Me, Chant of the Plains, There's A Blue Sky, Milk Cow Blues, Yodelin' Crazy.

Lone Prairie has roped and branded that special cowpoke music of the thirties and forties popularized by the legendary Sons of the Pioneers. It's a sound powered by strongly strummed guitars, fiddle flourishes, a sprightly banjo, a stout foundation provided by the bass and a three-part harmony enhanced by yodels.

The band's amazing vocal harmonies are provided by CBA co-founder Jack Sadler, Paul King and Joe Kimbro. Each has a warm and flexible voice and they easily trade lead vocals and harmonies as fast as a cowboy changing horses. Jack has a soaring yodel that easily moves up and down scales of notes and he makes it sound as if it was as easy as getting out of bed in the morning. Rounding out the band are Mark McCornack on banjo and steel guitar, Karen Quick on bass and Ed Neff on fiddle.

Most of the songs are classic Sons of the Pioneers songs written

by Bob Nolan. “Tumbling Tumbleweeds” has Ed adding lonesome fiddle to the saga of the lonely cowboy spending nights under the prairie moon. There's even a Bill Monroe tune, “Goodbye Ol' Pal,” complete with banjo and yodel by Jim Kimbro. Paul King composed the title song, “Back on the Dusty Trail” complete with a yodeling chorus. Not to be outdone, Jack Sadler puts Rex Allen's “Yodeling Crazy” through its paces, and this has to be one of the most spectacular yodeling performances! So if you've been hankering for the sound of the old West, saddle up and grab this album!

## The Earl Brothers: Moonshine

[www.earlbrothers.com](http://www.earlbrothers.com)  
 c.2008

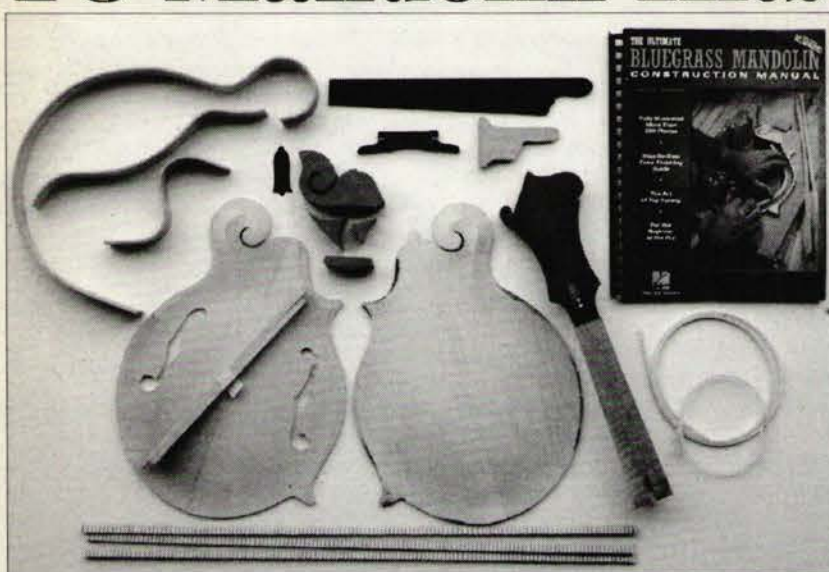
Song list: Train of Sorrow, Heartbreak Game, Hell on the Highway, Dark Days, Crossing Richmond, Troubles to Blame, Going Walking, Moonshine, By The Side of the Road, Rooster Ruckus, Too Young to Go, Life Full of Trouble.

The Earl Brothers are a California band with an attitude. If “men in black” bring images of Johnny Cash or the Gothic dudes down the street, then this is the band formed on the dark side of bluegrass. Robert Earl Davis is the head honcho for this band and his banjo has a hard edge that speaks more of blues and hard times than Earl Scruggs or Ralph Stanley. The Earl Brothers play on the side of the road that's troubled by dark days, troubles and sorrow. These are themes that populate the blues, but the Earl Brothers manage to give these original tunes a bluegrass punch and a lonesome sound. Robert Earl Davis is an original songwriter with a talent for turning simple phrases into moments of truth. Other band members are Danny Morris on guitar and tenor vocals, Larry Hughes on mandolin and James Touzel on bass.

The banjo drone underscores the message, and the recurring rhythm patterns draw the listener into the song. “I'm going walking, stay away from bad blues” starts as a mantra to a departed love but it's not with any trace of regret. The Earl Brothers manage to get more grit into each song and the cast of

Continued on B-11

## F5 Mandolin Kits



Our kits are heralded as the best of class. All parts are precision crafted and ready for assembly and sanding. Each kit includes a copy of *The Ultimate Bluegrass Mandolin Construction Manual* with a set of full-size computer-generated working drawings. Kits available for F5, F4, and A5 mandolins, with several versions to suit various levels of building expertise.

For more information visit  
[www.siminoff.net](http://www.siminoff.net) or write:

**Siminoff**  
**Banjo and**  
**Mandolin Parts**

PO Box 1388, Arroyo Grande, CA 93421  
 805.474.4876 • [siminoff@siminoff.net](mailto:siminoff@siminoff.net)

Professional parts for luthiers worldwide since 1960





# RECORDING REVIEWS

By Brenda Hough

drunkards, deserted children by the side of the road, dancers and moonshiners stand out in bold relief. "Life is full of trouble and heartaches on the way.....You better start your living, you're leaving here someday" - puts life into the least common denominator!

## Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder: Honoring the Fathers of Bluegrass 1946-1947

Skaggs Family Records  
www.skaggsfamilyrecords.com  
c.2008

**Song list:** Going Back to Old Kentucky, When You're Lonely, Toy Heart, It's Mighty Dark to Travel, Mother's Only Sleeping, Bluegrass Breakdown, Little Cabin Home on the Hill, Mansions For Me, Sweetheart You Done Me Wrong, Why Did You Wander, Remember the Cross, The Old Crossroad.

The years 1946-1947 were the founding years of Bill Monroe's Original Bluegrass Band. He had just hired guitarist Lester Flatt and banjo player Earl Scruggs and together with fiddler Chubby Wise and bassist Howard Watts, this became the band that solidified the bluegrass style and started the band's long series of appearances on the Grand Ole Opry. The songs selected for the album were inspired from a stash of never-before-heard recordings and some of the lyrics are included on the album liner notes.

Ricky Skaggs and Kentucky Thunder have won 13 Grammys for their own innovative interpretations of bluegrass music, but this album was an effort to capture the original sounds and arrangements of the original Monroe band and preserve the music in its first genesis.

Ricky's Kentucky Thunder Band is an ensemble of ace pickers and singers. Members on the recording include Mark Fain on bass, Cody Kilby on guitar, Jim Mills on banjo, Andy Leftwich on fiddle, Ricky Skaggs on mandolin and lead vocals, and Paul Brewster on tenor vocals.

The band remains faithful to the original arrangements and Earl Scruggs puts in a guest appearance on banjo on "Going Back to Old Kentucky," while Del McCoury provides the tenor vocal on the gospel "The Old Crossroad."

The instrumental "Bluegrass Breakdown" showcases Kentucky Thunder's excellent prowess on the bluegrass instruments. Lester Flatt's songwriting collaboration with Bill Monroe started in the early days and their songs written together on this album are "When You're Lonely," "Little Cabin Home on the Hill," "Sweetheart You Done Me Wrong" and "Why Did You Wander." For those whose bluegrass interest has been recent, this

album gives a retrospective look at the early songs that were the foundation for the Bill Monroe bluegrass sound.

## Daniel Boner: The Gospel Way

Daysight Music  
166 Smith Avenue  
Elizabethton, TN 37643  
c.2007  
www.dansmusiconline.com

**Song list:** Let Tomorrow Be, Take Up Thy Cross, I Wish I'd Done It Sooner, Presence of the Lord, The Unclouded Day, I Am A Pilgrim, Down by the Riverside, Take Your Shoes Off Moses, What A Friend We Have in Jesus, Angel At My Doorstep, One Captain, Jesus Will Help You, There I Go, I'll Fly Away, Will the Circle Be Unbroken, I Saw The Light, The Gospel Way.

Daniel Boner is a bluegrass department faculty member of the East Tennessee State University with specialties in harmony singing, bands and music theory. He is also an accomplished guitarist and singer and he skillfully leads his band through a collection of original and traditional songs before an enthusiastic audience at the First Baptist Church in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

Joining Daniel are Becky Buller on fiddle and vocals, J.P. Mathes on banjo and vocals, Jason Crawford on mandolin and vocals, Daniel Salyer on guitar and vocals, Will Parsons on banjo and David Babb on bass and vocals.

The 16 songs include instrumental versions of "The Unclouded Day" with guitar, mandolin, bass, fiddle, and banjo and solo guitar versions of "I Am A Pilgrim" and "I'll Fly Away" with Daniel. Becky sings the lead vocal on her original "One Captain" with accompaniment by Daniel on mandolin and Becky on guitar. Daniel sings the lead on another of Becky's songs, "Take Up Thy Cross," with a lovely 4 part harmony including bass vocals from Jason. Daniel has contributed 4 songs including the title cut, "The Gospel Way" with a full complement of four vocalists and strong fiddle and banjo instrumentals. The clapping and foot stomping will be hard to resist, and you will find yourself joining the audience in enthusiastic appreciation for the music.

## Various Artists: Best Loved Bluegrass - 20 All-Time Favorites

Rebel Records  
PO Box 7405  
Charlottesville, VA 22906  
c.2008  
www.rebelrecords.com

**Song list:** Nine Pound Hammer, John Henry, Bringing Mary Home, Wabash Cannonball, White House Blues, Footprints in the Snow, Atlanta Is Burning,

Fireball Mail, Fox on the Run, Poor Ellen Smith, Love of the Mountains, Darling Corey, Little Glass of Wine, Train 45, Little Rosewood Casket, Pig in a Pen, Dream of a Miner's Child, Down in the Willow Garden, Roving Gambler, Lonesome Road Blues.

Several albums proclaim "all-time favorites" or "best of bluegrass," but this album can certainly be considered as a classic collection featuring some of the most played songs at jam sessions played by some of the most well known groups from the bluegrass recordings of Rebel Records.

The Country Gentlemen's "Bringing Mary Home" with the golden voices of Charlie Waller and John Duffey is from the band's early years. Del McCoury's distinctive voice soars over a powerful banjo and mandolin duel in "White House Blues." Emerson

and Waldron perform the much maligned but still effective song, "Fox on the Run." J.D. Crowe's "Train 45" is an outstanding example of his banjo prowess and the Claire Lynch band puts some power in their instrumentals on an almost six minute "Wabash Cannonball."

The Rebel Records catalog of songs contains over 5,000 recorded performances and spans the creators of the bluegrass songs through the second generation players of the 1960s and 1970s to some of the popular artists of today. Featured on the songs are the Stanley Brothers, Mac Wiseman, Don Reno and Red Smiley from the early days of bluegrass to second generation performers the Seldom Scene, the Country Gentlemen, The Boys From Indiana, Tony Rice and J.D. Crowe. Larry Sparks, Dave Evans, Ricky Skaggs and Claire Lynch are some of the current "hit makers"



Brenda Hough

included on this album. This album is an excellent introduction to bluegrass for anyone wanting to know more about the genre.

Please contact Brenda Hough for more information or to submit material for review:

hufstuff2003@yahoo.com

The International Bluegrass Music Museum presents

# ROMP

**JUNE 26-28**  
**OWENSBORO, KY**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 26 RIVERPARK CENTER 11 AM - 4 PM**

3 regional bands TBA  
Roots Battle of the Bands Winner  
Bob & Sheila Everhart  
American Flyer

**Bluegrass  
Masters Film  
Premieres!**

**THE LEGENDS CONCERT**  
7 - 10 PM Host: Ron Thomason  
The Sullivans  
The Lewis Family  
The Isaacs

**New  
Exhibits!**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 27 YELLOW CREEK PARK NOON - 11 PM**

**Tickets & Info**  
**888-MY-BANJO**  
**or online**  
**www.riverofmusic.org**

Lost and Found  
Country Ham  
Larry Stephenson Band  
Saubert & Graham  
Red Wine  
Hazel Dickens  
Don Rigsby & Midnight Call  
Dry Branch Fire Squad  
Dale Ann Bradley  
Mike Snider

**DAILY ADVANCE:**  
**Adults \$20**  
**Seniors / Students \$10**  
**12 & Under Free**  
**3-Day Passes On Sale Now!**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28 YELLOW CREEK PARK 10 AM - 11 PM**

**FREE  
CAMPING!**

Tom, Tina & U.S. Express  
Cedar Hill  
Kentucky Bluegrass All Stars  
Buddy and Tina Wright Band  
G2  
Claire Lynch  
Hamilton County Band  
Cadillac Sky  
Crooked Still  
Cherryholmes  
Dailey & Vincent  
Infamous Stringdusters

**TOURS  
TRADE SHOW  
WORKSHOPS!**

INTERNATIONAL  
**BLUEGRASS**  
MUSIC MUSEUM

www.riverofmusic.org

By attending ROMP, you help  
preserve the history, artifacts and  
collections of Bluegrass Music.

**Kentucky**  
UNBROKEN SPIRIT  
Kentucky Arts Council and  
Kentucky Dept. of Tourism

Travel and Lodging:  
www.visitowensboro.com



# CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

## BAND GIGS & CONCERTS MAY

- 5/1/2008 -- Salt Martians will perform from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. For information, call 805-899-3100 or visit [www.tupelojunction.com](http://www.tupelojunction.com)
- 5/1/2008 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232
- 5/1/2008 -- Eric Thompson's Kleptograss 8 pm concert at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/1/2008 -- Dark Hollow will perform at the Atlas Cafe, 3049 20th Street (at Alabama), San Francisco, CA. For information, call JimBo Trout at 415-648-1047, email [shout@jimbotrout.com](mailto:shout@jimbotrout.com), or visit <http://www.atlascafe.net>
- 5/2/2008 -- Sonoma Mountain Band will play at 8 pm at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street, Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660 or visit [www.sonomapub.com](http://www.sonomapub.com)
- 5/2/2008 -- Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys 8 pm concert at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$49.50 advance and \$50.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/2/2008 -- The Greencards will perform at a 9 pm concert in the Willow Lounge at Black Oak Casino, 19400 Tuolumne Road North, Tuolumne, CA. For information, call Brent Pierce at 877-747-8777, email [bpierce@blackoakcasino.com](mailto:bpierce@blackoakcasino.com) or visit [www.blackoakcasino.com](http://www.blackoakcasino.com)
- 5/3/2008 -- Frank Ray & Cedar Hill, 7:30 pm Sacramento Area CBA Concert, Faith Presbyterian Church, 625 Florin Rd, Sacramento, CA. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 door. For information and tickets, call 916-990-0719 or Email [bluegrass@shaunv.com](mailto:bluegrass@shaunv.com)
- 5/3/2008 -- Houston Jones will play at 8 pm at Armando's, 707 Marina Vista Avenue, Martinez, CA. For information, call 925-229-1989 or visit [www.martinezvibes.com](http://www.martinezvibes.com)
- 5/3/2008 -- Rita Hosking and Cousin Jack 8 pm concert at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street, Newman, CA. Tickets are \$14 General Admission and \$17 Reserved Seats. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email [info@westsidetheatre.org](mailto:info@westsidetheatre.org) or visit [www.westsidetheatre.org](http://www.westsidetheatre.org)
- 5/3/2008 -- Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys 8 pm concert at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$49.50 advance and \$50.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/3/2008 -- The Earl Brothers will play at Cafe Du Nord, 2170 Market St., San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-861-5016 or visit [www.cafedunord.com](http://www.cafedunord.com)
- 5/3/2008 -- 49 Special will play at the Connecticut Yankee, 100 Connecticut St, San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-552-4440 or visit <http://www.theyankee.com/>
- 5/4/2008 -- Ray Bierl & Friends will perform from 11 am to 1 pm at Cafe Di Bartolo, 3306 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. For information, call 510-628-0982.
- 5/4/2008 -- Riley's Mountaineers Mountaineers "Hometown Jamboree" 6 pm at Riley's at Los Rios Rancho, 39611 Oak Glen Road, Yucaipa, CA. Folks can tuck into a tasty meal and enjoy a hand-clappin', knee-slappin', toe-tappin' good time as Riley's Mountaineers and special guest performers. Guest musicians are always welcome to tote along an instrument or two and join in the free-wheeling jam after the show. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$12 for kids 12 and under. For tickets or information, go to [www.losriosrancho.com](http://www.losriosrancho.com) or call 909-797-1005.
- 5/4/2008 -- Cedar Hill will perform for Cowboy Sunday, on the Verboom Ranch, west of Orland, CA. For information, call Grant Garland at 530-865-9871 or email [ggarland@baraleinc.com](mailto:ggarland@baraleinc.com)
- 5/4/2008 -- Cherryholmes 7 pm concert at the Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA. Sponsored by the San Francisco Jazz Organization. Tickets are \$20 - \$55 per person. Tickets available at [www.sfbjazz.org](http://www.sfbjazz.org) or call 866-920-5299 or the box office at 415-563-6504 or visit [www.palaceoffinearts.org](http://www.palaceoffinearts.org)
- 5/5/2008 -- The Greencards will perform at 8 pm at The Little Fox Theatre, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City, CA. Tickets are \$12 advance and \$14 at the door. For information or tickets, call 652-369-4119 or visit [www.foxdream.com](http://www.foxdream.com)
- 5/4/2008 -- Earthquake Country will play from 2 to 5 pm at San Gregorio General Store, Highway 84 and Stage Road, San Gregorio, CA. For information, call 650-726-0565 or visit [www.sangregoriostore.com](http://www.sangregoriostore.com)
- 5/5/2008 -- Belle Monroe and Her Brewglass Boys will play from 7:30 to 11:30 pm at Amnesia, 853 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-970-8336 or visit [www.amnesiathebar.com](http://www.amnesiathebar.com)
- 5/6/2008 -- Bean Creek will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)
- 5/6/2008 -- An Evening Honoring Utah Phillips, 8 pm concert featuring Jody Strecher & Kate Brislin and a host of guest musicians, at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/7/2008 -- Bill Evans & Steve Smith will perform at 8 pm at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/7/2008 -- Sidesaddle & Company will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)
- 5/7/2008 -- Whiskey Brothers will play at 9 pm at the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, call 510-843-2473 or visit [www.albatrosspub.com](http://www.albatrosspub.com)
- 5/8/2008 -- The Jerry Douglas Band, 7:30 pm concert in the Carriage House Theatre at the Montalvo Arts Center, 15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga, CA. Tickets are \$30 advance and \$40 at the door. For information or tickets, call 408-961-5807 or visit [www.montalvoarts.org](http://www.montalvoarts.org)
- 5/8/2008 -- The James King Band will perform at 7:30 pm at the First Baptist Church of Palos Verdes, 28 Moccasin Lane, Rollin Hills Estates, CA. The concert is sponsored by the South West Bluegrass Association. Donations will be gladly accepted. For more information, call 310-378-2770 or visit [www.s-w-b-a.com](http://www.s-w-b-a.com)
- 5/8/2008 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232
- 5/8/2008 -- Salt Martians will perform from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. For information, call 805-899-3100 or visit [www.tupelojunction.com](http://www.tupelojunction.com)
- 5/9/2008 -- Houston Jones will perform at 1 pm in the Bear Garden at the Dixon May Fair, 655 South First Street, Dixon, CA. For information, call 707-678-5529 or visit [www.dixonmayfair.com](http://www.dixonmayfair.com)
- 5/9/2008 -- Steve Smith will perform at the Sebastopol Center For The Arts, 6780 Depot Street, Sebastopol, CA. For more information, call Kevin Russell at 707-824-1858 or 707-829-4787 or email [krussellmft@aol.com](mailto:krussellmft@aol.com)
- 5/10/2008 -- Chojo Mojo with Hojo concert featuring Chojo Jacques with Houston Jones, 8 pm at the Mission City Coffee Roasting Co., 2221 The Alameda, Santa Clara, CA. For information, call 831-479-1399, email [brundle@attglobal.net](mailto:brundle@attglobal.net) or visit [www.fiddlingcricket.com](http://www.fiddlingcricket.com)
- 5/11/2008 -- Kathy Kallick & Friends 1 pm 19th Annual Mother's Day Celebration at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/11/2008 -- Austin Lounge Lizards 8 pm concert at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/13/2008 -- Carolina Special will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)
- 5/14/2008 -- Houston Jones will play at 8 pm at Strings Coffeehouse, 6320 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville, CA. For information, call 510-653-5700, email [admin@strings.org](mailto:admin@strings.org) or visit [www.strings.org](http://www.strings.org)
- 5/14/2008 -- Diana Donnelly & the Yes Ma'ams will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)
- 5/14/2008 -- Houston Jones will perform at 8 pm at Strings Coffeehouse, 6320 San Pablo Ave., Emeryville, CA. For information, call 510-653-5700, email [admin@strings.org](mailto:admin@strings.org), or visit [www.strings.org](http://www.strings.org)
- 5/15/2008 -- Kathy Kallick's 19th Annual Mother's Day Celebration, 1 pm at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/15/2008 -- The Cowlicks, the Mighty Crows, the Pine Box Boys and Rancho Deluxe will perform at 8:30 pm at the Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA. The performance will be followed by late night jam until 1:30 am hosted by Jacob Groopman. For information, call 510 841-2082 or visit [www.starryploughpub.com](http://www.starryploughpub.com)
- 5/15/2008 -- Chuck and Jeanie's Country Roundup, Devil's Slide, Gayle Lynn & Her Hired Hands and others will perform for a 5-9 pm benefit concert for Avon Walks For Breast Cancer at the El Rio, 3158 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-282-3325 or visit [www.elriosf.com](http://www.elriosf.com)
- 5/15/2008 -- The Waybacks 8 pm concert at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$24.50 advance and \$25.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/16/2008 -- The Stairwell Sisters will perform at 8 pm at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$18.50 advance and \$19.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)
- 5/15/2008 -- Ed Neff & Friends will perform at the Willowbrook Ale House, 3600 Petaluma Blvd., Petaluma, CA. For information, call 707-775-4232
- 5/15/2008 -- Salt Martians will perform from 5:30 - 7:30 pm at the Tupelo Junction Cafe, 1218 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. For information, call 805-899-3100 or visit [www.tupelojunction.com](http://www.tupelojunction.com)
- 5/16/2008 -- Houston Jones will perform at 8 pm at the Dana Street Roasting Company, 744 West Dana St., Mountain View, CA. For information, call 650-390-9638 or visit [www.danastreetroasting.com](http://www.danastreetroasting.com)
- 5/16/2008 -- The Waybacks will perform at 8 pm at Don Quixote's International Music Hall, 6275 Highway 9 and Graham Hill Road in Felton, CA. Tickets are \$20 advance and \$23 at the door. For information or tickets, contact Tom Miller at 831-335-5308 or visit <http://www.donquixotesmusic.com/>
- 5/16/2008 -- 49 Special will perform at McGrath's Irish Pub, Corner of Lincoln and Stanton, Alameda, CA. For information, call 510-522-6268 or visit [www.mcgrathspub.com](http://www.mcgrathspub.com)
- 5/17/2008 -- Jim Nunally, Judy Forrest and Tomas Enguidanos preform from 8:00 - 11:15 at First Street Cafe, 440 First Street, Benicia, CA. For information, call 707-745-1400 or visit [www.firststcafe.com](http://www.firststcafe.com)
- 5/18/2008 -- Ray Bierl & Friends will play from 11 am to 1 pm at Cafe Di Bartolo, 3306 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA. For information, call 510-628-0982
- 5/18/2008 -- The Waybacks 7 pm concert at the Little Fox Theatre, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City, CA. Tickets are \$17 advance and \$18 at the door.

Continued on B-13



# CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

For information or tickets, call 652-369-4119 or visit [www.foxdream.com](http://www.foxdream.com)

5/20/2008 -- The Brombies will perform at The Braemar Country Club, 4001 Reseda Blvd., Tarzana, CA. A Bluegrass in the Mountains concert sponsored by the Bluegrass Association of Southern California. Dinner served from 6:30 pm. Free parking. For information, contact Harley Tarlitz - email [bascinfo@socalbluegrass.org](mailto:bascinfo@socalbluegrass.org) or visit [www.socalbluegrass.org](http://www.socalbluegrass.org)

5/20/2008 -- Cabin Fever will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)

5/21/2008 -- Whiskey Brothers will play at 9 pm at the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, call 510-843-2473 or visit [www.albatrosspub.com](http://www.albatrosspub.com)

5/21/2008 -- Sidesaddle & Company will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)

5/22/2008 -- The Earl Brothers will play from 9 pm until midnight at the Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA. The band will be followed by a late night jam session until 1:30 am. For information, call 510 841-2082 or visit [www.starryploughpub.com](http://www.starryploughpub.com)

5/22/2008 -- Bluegrass Buffet 8 pm concert featuring Bluegrass Revolution and The South Austin Jug Band at the Freight and Salvage Coffee House, 1111 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA. Tickets are \$15.50 in advance and \$16.50 at the door. For information or tickets, call 510-548-1761 or visit [www.freightandsalvage.org](http://www.freightandsalvage.org)

5/23/2008 -- The David Thom Band will perform at 8 pm at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street, square Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660 or visit [www.sonomapub.com](http://www.sonomapub.com)

5/24/2008 -- The Anderson Family Bluegrass Band will perform from 8 am until 11 pm at Nevada County Grower's Market, Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Outdoor grower's market at the beautiful Nevada County Fairgrounds. Free admission. For information, visit <http://www.andersonfamilybluegrass.com>

5/26/2008 -- The Barefoot Nellies will perform from 7:30 to 10:30 pm at Amnesia, 853 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA. For information, call 415-970-8336 or visit [www.amnesiathebar.com](http://www.amnesiathebar.com)

5/27/2008 -- Peter Rowan & The Free Mexican Airforce 7:30 pm concert at Don Quixote's International Music Hall, 6275

Highway 9 and Graham Hill Road in Felton, CA. Tickets are \$20. For information or tickets, call 831-335-5308 or visit <http://www.donquixotemusic.com/>

5/27/2008 -- Larry Lynch & Sunshine Mountain will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)

5/28/2008 -- Diana Donnelly & the Yes Ma'ams will perform from 6 to 8:30 pm at Sam's Barbeque, 1110 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose, CA. For information, call 408-297-9151 or visit [www.samsbbq.com](http://www.samsbbq.com)

5/30/2008 -- The Moonshiners will perform at 8 pm at Murphy's Irish Pub, 464 First Street, square Sonoma, CA. For information, call 707-935-0660 or visit [www.sonomapub.com](http://www.sonomapub.com)

## JUNE

6/6/2008 -- Antsy McClain & the Trailer Park Troubadours will perform at 8 pm at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street Newman, CA. Tickets are \$23 General Admission and \$26 Reserved Seating. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email [info@westsidetheatre.org](mailto:info@westsidetheatre.org) or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>

6/6/2008 -- Houston Jones will play at 8 pm at the Cafe Trieste, 2500 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, call 510-583-0784, email [houstonjonesband@yahoo.com](mailto:houstonjonesband@yahoo.com) or visit [houstonjones.com](http://houstonjones.com)

6/7/2008 -- Antsy McClain & the Trailer Park Troubadours 8 pm concert at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street Newman, CA. Tickets are \$23 General Admission and \$26 Reserved Seating. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email [info@westsidetheatre.org](mailto:info@westsidetheatre.org) or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>

6/7/2008 -- Riley's Mountaineers Mountaineers "Hometown Jamboree" 6 pm at Riley's at Los Rios Rancho, 39611 Oak Glen Road, Yucaipa, CA. Folks can tuck into a tasty meal and enjoy a hand-clappin', knee-slappin', toe-tappin' good time as Riley's Mountaineers and special guest performers. Guest musicians are always welcome to tote along an instrument or two and join in the free-wheeling jam after the show. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$12 for kids 12 and under. For tickets or information, go to [www.losriosrancho.com](http://www.losriosrancho.com) or call 909-797-1005.

6/13/2008 -- Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives, 9 pm concert in the Willow Lounge at the Black Oak Casino, 19400 Tuolumne Road North, Tuolumne, CA. For information, contact Brent Pierce at

877-747-8777, email [bpierce@blackoakcasino.com](mailto:bpierce@blackoakcasino.com), or visit [www.blackoakcasino.com](http://www.blackoakcasino.com)

6/13/2008 -- Marty Raybon 9 pm concert in the Willow Lounge at the Black Oak Casino, 19400 Tuolumne Road North, Tuolumne, CA. For information, contact Brent Pierce at 877-747-8777, email [bpierce@blackoakcasino.com](mailto:bpierce@blackoakcasino.com), or visit [www.blackoakcasino.com](http://www.blackoakcasino.com)

6/14/2008 -- Houston Jones will play at 7 pm at Mission Coffee Roasting Co., 151 Washington Blvd., Fremont, CA. For information, call 510-440-0321, email [info@fremontcoffee.com](mailto:info@fremontcoffee.com), or visit <http://www.fremontcoffee.com/>

6/7/2008 -- Antsy McClain & the Trailer Park Troubadours 8 pm concert at the West Side Theatre, 1331 Main Street Newman, CA. Tickets are \$23 General Admission and \$26 Reserved Seating. For information or tickets, call 209-862-4490, email [info@westsidetheatre.org](mailto:info@westsidetheatre.org) or visit <http://www.westsidetheatre.org>

## MUSIC CAMPS

### JUNE

6/8/2008 -- 6/11/2008 -- California Bluegrass Association Music Camp, at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Instructors include: Banjo (bluegrass): Bill Evans, Jason Bursleson, Nick Hornbuckle; Banjo (old time): Tom Sauber, Steve Baughman; Guitar: Jim Nunally, Tim Stafford, Dix Bruce; Mandolin: Butch Waller, Alan Bibey, John Reischman; Fiddle: Heidi Clare, Jack Tuttle, Megan Lynch; Dobro: Rob Ickes, Ivan Rosenberg; Bass: Lisa Burns, Trisha Gagnon; Vocals: Keith Little and Carol McComb. New this year is a Jamming 101 classes taught by Sid Lewis. Cost of camp: \$270 before May 1st; \$305 after May 1st. Catered meals and on-site camping available as options. For information or registration, call 415-663-1342 or visit <http://www.cbamusiccamp.org>

## MUSIC INSTRUCTION

4/8/2008 -- 5/27/2008 -- Slow Jam Classes with Ran Bush, Bill Evans & guests, 7:30 - 9:30 pm (every Tuesday) at the 5th String Music Store, 3051 Adeline St., Berkeley, CA. For information or registration, call 510-525-8156 or email [ranbush@gmail.com](mailto:ranbush@gmail.com)

4/2/2008 -- 4/30/2008 -- Avram Siegel's bluegrass jam classes (every Wednesday) in Berkeley, CA. Location and time TBA. For information, email [avramnallison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:avramnallison@sbcglobal.net)

## FESTIVALS

### MAY

5/4/2008 -- 3rd annual Tempest Festival of Arts and Music at

the Gold Country Fairgrounds in Auburn, CA. Bands include the Anderson Family Bluegrass Band, Tempest, Tom Rigney & Flambeau and Karfluki. Other activities include fire dancers, belly dancers, juggling school, Irish stepdancers, bagpipes, Magic, kid's activities, Arts-Crafts, Food and more. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.karflukifest.com>

5/8/2008 -- 5/11/2008 -- Parkfield Bluegrass Festival in the town of Parkfield, CA. Bands include James King Band, Junior Sisk & Rambler's Choice, Hillman/Pedersen/Bryson, Leroy Mack & the BG Gospel Band, Eric Uglam & Sons, Bean Creek and more TBA. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.parkfieldbluegrass.com>

5/18/2008 -- 48th Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest, 9 am to 6 pm at Paramount Ranch, Agoura, CA. Performers include Jamie Lavel & Ashley Broder, the Stairwell Sisters, Simon Pure, Fur Dixon & Steve Werner, Evic Ladin, High Hills Bluegrass Band, Trails and Rails and many more. Other events include Fiddle and Banjo contests, workshops, jamming and more. For information, call 818-382-4819 or visit [www.topangabanjofiddle.org](http://www.topangabanjofiddle.org)

5/18/2008 -- Topanga Banjo-Fiddle Contest & Folk Festival, Paramount Movie Ranch Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area, Agoura, CA. Festival is held from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. This year Topanga features over 100 singing/playing contestants competing for \$7,500 in cash and gift awards and many professional bands, including Celtic-bluegrass duo Jamie Laval & Ashley Broder, old-time band The Stairwell Sisters and bluegrass band, Simon Pure. The Festival also features folk singing, international folk dancing, folk arts booths, jamming musicians and children's music and crafts! Tickets sold only at the gate: \$12 ages 18-64, \$7 for young 'uns 10-17 and seniors 65 and up. Kids under 10 get in free! Parking and shuttle bus are free! Bring a picnic, bring your instruments, bring your mother-in-law! For information, call 818-382-4819, email [info@topangabanjofiddle.org](mailto:info@topangabanjofiddle.org), or visit [www.topangabanjofiddle.org](http://www.topangabanjofiddle.org)

5/22/08 -- 5/25/08 -- Strawberry Spring Music Festival, Camp Mather near Yosemite National Park, CA. Advance tickets now on sale. Bands include: Tim O'Brien, John Cowan Trio, Chuck Prophet, South Austin Jug Band, Cadillac Sky, Peter Rowan and the Free Mexican Airforce; plus many more to be announced. For information or tickets, call 209-984-8630 or visit [www.strawberrymusic.com](http://www.strawberrymusic.com)

com. Tickets sell out early for this one!

## JUNE

6/12/2008 -- 6/15/2008 -- 33rd Annual Father's Day Bluegrass Festival at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Presented by the California Bluegrass Association. Bands include: The Dan Tyminski Band, Blue Highway, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Grasstowne, Bradley Walker, The Wilders, Crooked Still, Goldwing Express, The Doerfel Family, The BladeRunners, Sidesaddle & Co., Natural Drift, Diana Donnelly & The Yes Ma'ams, Belle Monroe & Her Brewglass Boys, and the Mount Diablo String Band. Additional activities include a children's program, music and luthier workshops, jamming, camping and much more. Advance tickets now available by mail and at [www.cbaon-theweb.org](http://www.cbaon-theweb.org). Please see our ad on pages A-12 & 13 of this issue for mail order information and ticket prices. Credit card orders available at [www.cbaon-theweb.org](http://www.cbaon-theweb.org). For general information, call Festival Director Montie Elston at 530-749-9504 or email [fidle3@lanset.com](mailto:fidle3@lanset.com)

6/13/2008 -- 6/15/2008 -- Huck Finn Jubilee at Mojave Narrows Regional Park, Victorville, CA. Bands include The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, the Dan Tyminski Band, Blue Highway, Dry Branch Fire Squad, the Gibson Brothers, Randy Waller & the Country Gentlemen, Berline, Cray & Hickman, California Reunion, Julie Wingfield, and the Bon Family Cloggers. Other events include the National Bluegrass Playoffs, California State Arm Wrestling Championship, river raft building and a crafts and food festival. Tickets are now on sale. For information or tickets, call 951-341-8080 or visit [www.huckfinn.com](http://www.huckfinn.com)

6/13/2008 -- 6/15/2008 -- Live Oak Music Festival at Live Oak Camp on Sate Route 154, near Santa Barbara, CA. Bands include Nanci Griffith, Poncho Sanchez, Mike Marshall, Dan Hicks & His Hot Licks, Nappy Brown, The Derailers, Inga Swearingen, The Stairwell Sisters, Banshee in the Kitchen and more bands TBA. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.liveoakfest.org>

6/13/2008 -- 6/15/2008 -- 5th Annual North Fork Bluegrass & Roots Music Festival, Delta Fair Park, 403 E. Bridge Street, Hotchkiss, CO. For information, call 970-872-8000 or visit [www.northforkbluegrass.com](http://www.northforkbluegrass.com)

6/19/2008 -- 6/22/2008 -- Telluride Bluegrass Festival in Town

*Continued on B-14*



# CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

*Continued from B-13*

Park, Lyons, CO. For information or tickets, write to Craig Ferguson, P.O. Box 769, Lyons, CO 80540; call 800-624-2422 or email [planet@bluegrass.com](mailto:planet@bluegrass.com).

6/16/2008 – 6/21/2008 – National Old-Time Fiddle Contest, in the town of Weiser, ID. Contestant registration on 6/15/2008. Workshops throughout the week as well as various levels of fiddle contests with a variety of cash prizes. Camping available on site. For information, tickets and registration forms, call 208-642-3553 or email [admin@fiddlecontest.com](mailto:admin@fiddlecontest.com) or visit [www.fiddlecontest.com](http://www.fiddlecontest.com).

6/20/2008 – 6/21/2008 – Weiser River Bluegrass Festival in the City Park Stage, E. Court and E. 2nd Streets, Weiser, ID. For information, call 208-642-3553 or email [admin@fiddlecontest.com](mailto:admin@fiddlecontest.com).

6/21/2008 – 6/22/2008 – San Francisco Free Folk Festival at the City College of San Francisco, 50 Phelan Ave., San Francisco, CA. For information, visit <http://www.sffolkfest.org/2008/index.html>.

6/21/2008 – 27th Annual Prescott Bluegrass Festival at the Courthouse Plaza, (Hwy 89 and Gurley Street), Prescott, AZ. Bands include The Gibson Brothers, Heidi Clara and Atagallo (with Ron Thomasson), Sons and Brothers, Sawmill Road and Fire Ridge. Saturday performances from 10:30 am to 9 pm and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Free admission to the shows. Dry camping available at the Mile High Middle School for \$15 per night per unit. For more information, call 928-445-2000, ext. 120 or visit [www.prescottbluegrassfestival.com](http://www.prescottbluegrassfestival.com).

6/27/2008 – 6/29/2008 – Kate Wolf Memorial Festival on Black Oak Ranch, Laytonville, CA. Bands include Greg Brown, Ruthie Foster, The Greencards, Los Lobos, Cris Williamson, David Lindley, Keb' Mo', Taj Mahal Trio, Rosalie Sorrels, Nina Gerber, Lucy Kaplansky, John Gorka, Jimmy LaFave, The Waifs, The Wailin' Jennys, Blame Sally, and Vance Gilbert. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.cumuluspresents.com/kate/index.html>.

## JULY

7/11/2008 – 7/13/2008 – Bluegrass on the Comstock in Miner's Park, (Carson and F Streets), Virginia City, NV. For information, contact Virginia City Visitors Center, P.O. Box 920, Virginia City, NV 89440, call 800-718-7587 or email [info@visitvirginiacitynv.com](mailto:info@visitvirginiacitynv.com).

7/17/2008 – 7/20/2008 – World Fest at Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Eight stages and musicians

galore. Partial line-up includes: Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Waifs, Les Yeux Noir, Fishtank Ensemble, Baka Beyond, Wailin' Jennys, Rufus and Chic Gamine with more bands TBA. Tickets are available online at [www.worldfest.net](http://www.worldfest.net) or call 530-891-4098.

7/18/2008 – 7/20/2008 – Scott Valley Bluegrass Festival in the town of Etna, CA. Bands include Carrie Hassler & Hard Rain, IIIrd Generation BG Band, Lost Highway, Ida Viper, Alhambra Valley Band, Anderson Family, Piney Creek Weasels and Siskiyou Summit. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.scottvalleybluegrass.org>.

7/26/2008 – Bluegrass, Bluejeans & Beyond, the 10th Anniversary Fund-raiser for the San Bernardino National Forest, 9 am to 10 pm in the Big Bear Discovery Center Amphitheater, 40971 North Shore Drive (Hwy 38), Fawnskin, CA. Dayfest from 9 am to 5 pm featuring The Mill Creek Boys, Scott Gates' Pacific Ocean Bluegrass Band and South Coast with more bands TBA. Eveningfest from 5 to 10 pm with dinner and bar available, featuring the Black Irish Bluegrass Band with Michael Martin Murphy and Cody Bryant and the Riders of the Purple Sage. Tickets: Dayfest - \$10 adults (13+) and children 12 and under free. Eveningfest -- \$30 adults; \$20 for ages 13-17; and 12 and under free. Advance combo tickets are \$35 for adults. For information or tickets, call 909-382-2780 or visit [www.bigbeardiscoverycenter.com](http://www.bigbeardiscoverycenter.com).

## AUGUST

8/8/2008 – 8/10/2008 – Good Old Fashioned Bluegrass Festival, in Bolado Park, 8 miles south of Hollister, CA. Presented by the Northern California Bluegrass Society. Bands include The Abbott Family Band, Amazing Dr. Zaron's Breathing Machine, Bean Creek, Belle Monroe & Her Brewglass Boys, Common Cents, Courthouse Ramblers, Cross Roads, Earthquake Country, Faux Renwah, Highway One, Houston Jones, Jimmy Chickenpants, Keystone Station, Kids On Stage, Kitchen Help, Mighty Crows, Mossy Creek, Nell Robinson & Red Level, Page Brownnton & Sidetrack, Rogue River, Scott Gates & Pacific Ocean Bluegrass Band, Smiley Mountain Band, Stoney Mountain Ramblers, Western Lights, Wranglers, and Yodeling Lady Lolita. For information or tickets, visit <http://www.scbs.org/GOF2008/GOF08Home.htm>.

8/22/2008 – 8/24/2008 – Summergrass, at the The Antique

Gas & Steam Engine Museum, 2040 N. Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, CA. Bands include Don Rigsby & Midnight Call, The Infamous Stringdusters, Bluegrass Etc. Chris Stuart & Backcountry and the Burnett Family. For information or tickets, visit (<http://www.summergrass.net>).

8/23/2008 – Bowers Mansion Bluegrass Festival between Reno & Carson City, NV. Bands include Rustler's Moon with Kathy Kallick & Bill Evans, Sidesaddle & Co., Wild Creek, The Bar BQ Boys, Wild Horse Drive and the NNBA Monday Night Volunteers. For information or tickets, visit <http://bowersbluegrassfestival.org>.

8/28/2008 – 8/31/2008 – Strawberry Fall Music Festival, Camp Mather near Yosemite National Park, CA. Advance tickets now on sale. Bands include: Sam Bush, Riders in the Sky, The Avett Brothers, The Steel Drivers, Victor Martinez and Oaxaca Contemporary, Chick Gamine plus many more to be announced. For information or tickets, call 209-984-8630 or visit [www.strawberrymusic.com](http://www.strawberrymusic.com). Tickets sell out early for this one!

## OCTOBER

10/10/2008 – 10/12/2008 – 19th Annual Bluegrass Festival at the Clark County Fairgrounds in Logandale, NV. Sponsored by the Southern Nevada Bluegrass Music Society and the Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce. Lineup includes Lost Highway, Silverado Bluegrass Band, Sawmill Road, the Marty Warburton Band, Red Desert Ramblers, Digger Davis & Tombstone, Just For Fun and Stuck in Reverse. RV and tent camping are available on site. Advance tickets are now on sale. For information, call 702-566-9372 or visit [www.snvbluegrass.com](http://www.snvbluegrass.com).

## DANCES

### APRIL

• Los Angeles – Square Dance, 3 – 5 pm at the Grand Old Echo, 1822 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, the 2nd Sunday of every month. All dances taught; all ages welcome and beginners encouraged. \$5 fee per person. Music provided by Triple Chicken Foot. For information, contact Ben Guzman via email at [ben@triplechickenfoot.com](mailto:ben@triplechickenfoot.com) or visit [www.myspace.com/triplechickenfoot](http://www.myspace.com/triplechickenfoot).

### MAY

5/10/2008 – Square Dance with music by the Knuckle Knockers and Evie Ladin caller, Humanist Hall, 309 27th Street, Oakland, CA. Arrive in bride/groom/prom attire and get half-off admission in

honor of Stephanie's wedding. For information, visit [www.humanisthall.net](http://www.humanisthall.net).

## JAM SESSIONS SUNDAY

• Alameda – Regular Jam Session from 6-8 pm every Sunday at the Alameda School of Music, 1307 High St., Alameda, CA. The 1st and 3rd Sundays are Bluegrass and 2nd and 4th Sundays are Swing/Jazz nights. Separate rooms are available for different skill levels, and a professional player will always be on hand to facilitate the jams. All skill levels welcome. For information, contact Barry Solomon at 510-501-2876 or email [barry6661@earthlink.net](mailto:barry6661@earthlink.net).

• Arroyo Grande – Bluegrass Jam every 3rd Sunday 5:30 - 8:30 pm, at SLO Down Pub, 1200 E. Grand Ave. (at Briscoe). For information, contact Roger Siminoff at 805-474-4876, or email [siminoff@siminoff.com](mailto:siminoff@siminoff.com).

• Berkeley – Bluegrass Jam every Sunday at 7 pm at the Jupiter Brewpub, 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA. For information, contact Kurt Caudle at 510-649-0456 or email [weelitzo@pacbell.net](mailto:weelitzo@pacbell.net).

• Berkeley – Spud's Pizza, 3290 Adeline (at the corner of Alcatraz), Berkeley, CA. Old-time Singing jam on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. Occasional performances by local musicians. For information, email [laurence.white@gmail.com](mailto:laurence.white@gmail.com).

• Castro Valley – California Old-time Fiddlers Association Jam from 1:30 to 5 pm on the 4th Sunday of every month at the United Methodist Church, 19806 Wisteria St., Castro Valley, CA. For information, call 925-455-4970.

• Chico – Bluegrass Jam from 2-5 pm on the 1st Sunday of every month at the Shade Tree Restaurant, 817 Main St. (between 8th & 9th Streets), Chico, CA. For information, contact Sid Lewis at 530-894-2526 or email [sidlewis420@yahoo.com](mailto:sidlewis420@yahoo.com).

• Coulterville – Old-time and Irish Music and Dance Celebration on the 4th Sunday of every month at the Magnolia Saloon in the Hotel Jeffrey, 41 Main Street, Coulterville, Ca. Open Old Time and Irish traditional music Jam from 1 to 3 pm and open session from 3 to 6 pm. For information, call 209-962-6455; email [kowanalynn@yahoo.com](mailto:kowanalynn@yahoo.com) or visit [www.hoteljeffreygold.com](http://www.hoteljeffreygold.com).

• Crescent City – Bluegrass Jam from 6-8 pm every Sunday at the United Methodist Church, 7th & H Streets, Crescent City, CA. Everyone welcome especially newer players. For information, contact George Layton at 707-464-8151 or email [ke6tkn@juno.com](mailto:ke6tkn@juno.com).

• Nevada City – Mountain Fiddlers Jam session, 1 pm on 1st Sunday of every month at Madelyn Helling Library Community Room, Nevada City, CA. For information, call 530-292-4203.

• Orangevale – California Old-Time Fiddlers' Association Jam Session on the 2nd Sunday of every month from 1 to 4:30 pm, Orangevale Grange Hall, 5805 Walnut, Orangevale, CA. For information, call 916-966-9067.

• San Francisco – Bluegrass Jam at 6 pm on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at Progressive Grounds Coffee Shop, 400 Courtland Ave., San Francisco, CA. For information, email [larrythe241@yahoo.com](mailto:larrythe241@yahoo.com).

• San Jose – Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers Association Jam from 1 to 5 pm on the 1st Sunday of every month at Hoover Middle School, Naglee & Park Streets, San Jose, CA. For information, call Paul Clarke at 408-749-0184 or visit [www.scvfa.org](http://www.scvfa.org).

• Santa Barbara – Bluegrass jam session beginning at noon on the second Sunday of every month Tucker's Grove County Park, 805 San Antonio Road, [near intersection of Turnpike Rd. and Cathedral Oaks Rd.; follow road into park about 1/3 mile, keeping to the right, until you reach Kiwanis Meadow]. For more information, email Alan: [constatty@aol.com](mailto:constatty@aol.com).

• Santa Margarita – Bluegrass jam session sponsored by the CBA in collaboration with Solomon's Café on the first Sunday of every month from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Solomon's is a great meeting and eating spot located 15 miles south of Paso Robles and 15 miles north of San Luis Obispo. For more information, contact Roger Siminoff at 805-474-4876 or email [siminoff@siminoff.com](mailto:siminoff@siminoff.com).

• Sebastopol – Bluegrass Gospel Jam from 2-5 pm on the 4th Sunday of every month at the Sebastopol Christian Church, 7433 Bodega Avenue Corner of Bodega & Jewell Ave., Sebastopol, CA. Bring your acoustic instruments & favorite old hymns/gospel songs to lead. For information, contact Jack & Laura Bengé at 707-824-1960 or email [bengeatlarge@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bengeatlarge@sbcglobal.net).

• Sutter Creek – Old-time and Irish Jam session from 1 to 5 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month at the American Exchange Hotel, 53 Main St, Sutter Creek, CA. For information, call 209-296-7706. New location.

Belotti's Bar on Main St (Hwy 49) in Sutter Creek, CA. For information, contact Masha Goodman at 209-296-7706; email [masha@banjodancer.com](mailto:masha@banjodancer.com); or visit [www.banjodancer.com](http://www.banjodancer.com).

*Continued on B-15*



# CBA Calendar of Upcoming Music Events

*Continued from B-14*

- **Thermalito** – Bluegrass Jam on the 4th Sunday of every month from 1-4 pm at the Thermalito Grange, Thermalito, CA. For information, call 530-589-4844.
  - **Various locations** – Pickin' Potlucks and Jams on the 2nd Sunday of each month in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Potluck from noon to 5 pm along with jam session. The jams will be held in various private homes in Oakland, Berkeley and El Cerrito. For information and exact location, email [Metronome7@aol.com](mailto:Metronome7@aol.com) or visit <http://www.pickinpotlucks.com/>
- ## MONDAY
- **Alameda** – Bluegrass Jam every Monday at McGrath's Irish Pub on the corner of Lincoln and Stanton in Alameda, CA. For information, contact Darby Brandli at 510-533-2792 or email [darbyandbruno@comcast.net](mailto:darbyandbruno@comcast.net).
  - **Oakland** – Bluegrass Jam at 8 pm every Monday beginning at 6 pm at the Baja Taqueria, 4070 Piedmont Ave. (near 41st Street), Oakland, CA. For information, call Joe Howton at 510-547-2252 or email [TRman2323@aol.com](mailto:TRman2323@aol.com).
  - **Palo Alto** – Old Time Jam session, 7 to 10 pm on the first and third Monday of every month at Fandango Pizza, 3163 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA. For information, call 650-328-0853 or email [akatiff@sbsglobal.net](mailto:akatiff@sbsglobal.net).
  - **San Diego** – Open Mic and Jam from 6 to 9 pm on the 4th Monday of every month at Godfather's Pizza, 5583 Claremont Mesa Blvd, San Diego, CA. For information, email Mike Tatar at [staghorn2@cox.net](mailto:staghorn2@cox.net).
  - **Signal Hill** – Bluegrass Jam Session every Monday from 7 to 10 pm at Curley's, 1999 E. Willow St., Signal Hill, CA. For information, call 562-424-0018.
- ## TUESDAY
- **Berkeley** – Bluegrass jam session every Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:30 at the 5th String Music Store, 3051 Adeline St., Berkeley, CA. The jam is hosted by Jacob Groopman of the Donner Mountain Bluegrass Band and is open to all skill levels and is given in an instructional environment. For information, email [jgroopman@gmail.com](mailto:jgroopman@gmail.com).
  - **Berkeley** – Old-Time Sing Along jam from 7:30 - 9:30 pm with occasional performances by local bands, at Spud's Pizza, 3290 Adeline (at the corner of Alcatraz), Berkeley, CA. For information, email [Larry.White@gmail.com](mailto:Larry.White@gmail.com).
  - **Dublin** – Bluegrass Jam on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at Dublin Heritage Center, 6600 Donlon Way, Dublin, CA. For information, call 925-803-4128.
  - **Escondido** – Bluegrass Jam every Tuesday from 7 to 10 pm at the Round Table Pizza, Ash and Washington Streets, Escondido, CA.
  - **Granada Hills** – Band performance and Bluegrass Jam from 7 to 10 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Baker's Square, 17921 Chatsworth Street (at Zelzah) in Granada Hills, CA. Sponsored by the Bluegrass Association of Southern California (BASC). For information, call 818-700-8288 or 818-366-7258.
  - **Loomis** – Bluegrass Jam from 6 to 9 pm every Tuesday evening at the Wild Chicken Coffee House, Horseshoe Bar & Taylor Rd, Loomis, CA. For information, call 916-276-1899.
  - **Palo Alto** – Celtic Slow Jam session from 7 to 9:45 pm every Tuesday at Fandango Pizza, 3163 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA. Hosted by Pete Showman. For information, call 408-255-0297.
  - **San Diego** – Bluegrass Jams, bands and open mic happening on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month. 2nd Tuesday – Fuddruckers at Grossmont Shopping Center, in La Mesa; 3rd Tuesday at Fuddruckers on Third Street in Chula Vista; and 4th Tuesday at Boll Weevils on Mira Mesa Blvd in San Diego. 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays are open mic and jams, and 4th Tuesday includes a featured band. Come hungry as we get a donation from each item sold there. Just tell them you are with the bluegrass club. For more information, contact Mike Tatar at [staghorn@cox.net](mailto:staghorn@cox.net).
  - **Truckee** – Bluegrass slow jam on the 1st Tuesday of every month, 6 pm at Between the Notes Music Store, Truckee, CA. For information, call Matt Milan, 916-276-1899.
- ## WEDNESDAY
- **Ben Lomond** – Intermediate Pickers Jam, 8 pm until closing at Henflings Tavern, 9450 Highway 9, Ben Lomond, CA. For information, call Jered at 831-335-1642 or 831-336-8811, email [jered@weber-hayes.com](mailto:jered@weber-hayes.com) or visit [www.henflings.com](http://www.henflings.com)
  - **Chico** – Bluegrass Jam from 7-9 pm at A Bean Scene Coffeehouse & Gallery, 1387 E. 8th Street, Chico, CA. Jam is open to all intermediate to advanced players. For information, call 530-898-9474 or 530-342-7998, email [novakd42@aol.com](mailto:novakd42@aol.com) or visit [www.bfms.freesevers.com](http://www.bfms.freesevers.com)
  - **Lompoc** – Bluegrass Jam from 7 to 9 pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at Southside Coffee Co., 105 South "H" St., Lompoc, CA. For more information, call Bill at (805) 736-8241
  - **Palo Alto** – Bluegrass Jam from 7-10 pm every Wednesday at Fandango Pizza, 3163 Middlefield Road (corner of Loma Verde), Palo Alto, CA. Sign on building also says Pommard's Café. For information, call 650-494-2928 or visit [www.TheBluegrass.com](http://www.TheBluegrass.com).
  - **Placerville** – Bluegrass Jam on the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 7-10 pm at Hidden Passage Books, 352 Main St, Placerville, CA. For information, call 530-622-4540 or 530-626-8751.
  - **San Francisco** – Bluegrass and Country Jam on the 1st Wednesday of every month at the Plough and Stars, 116 Clement St. (between 2nd & 3rd Ave.), San Francisco, CA. For information, contact Jeanie or Chuck Poling at 415-751-1122.
  - **Santa Rosa** – Old-Time and Bluegrass jam on the last Wednesday of every month at The Black Rose Pub, 2074 Armory Drive, Santa Rosa, CA. For more information, call Don Coffin at 707-995-0658 or Ricky Rakin at 707-824-9376.
- ## THURSDAY
- **Berkeley** – Bluegrass Jam session at the 5th String Music Store, 3051 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA. For information, call Tim Hicks at 510-548-8282 or visit <http://www.5thStringBerkeley.com>
  - **Chico** – CBA Bluegrass Jam from 6 to 10 pm on the 2nd Thursday of every month at Augie's Café, 230 Salem Street, Chico, CA. For more information, call 530-828-4676.
  - **Corte Madera** – Marin Bluegrass Jam on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 7:30 to 10 pm at the Marin Lutheran Church, 649 Meadowsweet, Corte Madera, CA. For information, visit [www.carltonemusic.com](http://www.carltonemusic.com)
  - **Los Angeles** – Old Time Jam session 9 pm to 12 am at the Hyperion Tavern, 1941 Hyperion Ave., Los Angeles on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Free admission. For information, contact Ben Guzman via email at [ben@triplechickenfoot.com](mailto:ben@triplechickenfoot.com) or visit [www.myspace.com/triplechickenfoot](http://www.myspace.com/triplechickenfoot).
  - **Morgan Hill** – South County Bluegrass Jam on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at The Buzz Stop, 17400-1B Monterey Road, Morgan Hill, CA. Open jam from 6-10 pm. For information, call 408-892-9157 or email Duane Campbell at [dicampbell339@yahoo.com](mailto:dicampbell339@yahoo.com).
  - **Morgan Hill** – Bluegrass Jam from 6 to 10 pm on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of every month at El Toro Brew Pub on the NW corner of Monterey and Main Streets in Morgan Hill, CA. For information, call the pub at 408-782-2739 or email Dick Simunic at [jrsimunic@hotmail.com](mailto:jrsimunic@hotmail.com).
  - **Napa** – Bluegrass and Fiddle Jam session every Thursday night from 7 to 10 pm in Napa. For information and location, call Pat Calhoun at 707-255-4936.
  - **Sacramento** – Bluegrass jam session every Thursday from 7 to 10 pm at The Fifth String Music Store, Alhambra & Streets, Sacramento, CA. For information, call 916-442-8282.
  - **Sacramento** – Bluegrass Slow Jam from 7 - 10 pm most Thursdays at various Sacramento area homes. Call John at 916-990-0719 for dates and location. New pickers welcome.
  - **Sacramento** – Bluegrass Jam session the 3rd Thursday of every month beginning at 7 pm at Boyd Luthiery, 2014-B Del Paso Boulevard, Sacramento, CA. For more information, email [matthewcoleman999@hotmail.com](mailto:matthewcoleman999@hotmail.com) or visit <http://www.luthiery.woodyboyd.net>
  - **San Francisco** – Bluegrass and Old-time music jam on the 4th Thursday of every month at the Atlas Café, 3049 20th Street at Alabama, San Francisco, CA.
  - **Ventura** – Bluegrass Jam from 6 to 9:30 pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at Zoey's Café, 451 E. Main Street in Ventura, CA. All skills welcome. For information, contact Gene Rubin at 805-658-8311 or email [gene@generubinaudio.com](mailto:gene@generubinaudio.com) or visit <http://home.earthlink.net/~generubinaudio/index.html>.
- ## FRIDAY
- **Sonoma** – Bluegrass Jam starting at 7 pm on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at the Old Stan, 177 S. Washington Street, Sonoma, CA. For information, email [mandobil@bigvalley.net](mailto:mandobil@bigvalley.net).
- ## SATURDAY
- **Clovis** – Bluegrass Jam session 7 to 11 pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th street, Clovis, CA. There is a \$1 fee to cover the cost of the rental of the hall. Sponsored by the Kings River Bluegrass Association. For information, contact Gerald L. (Jerry) Johnston at 559-225-6016; email [tophawker@yahoo.com](mailto:tophawker@yahoo.com) or visit <http://www.KRBLUE.NET>.
  - **Fremont** – Bluegrass Jam Session on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at Mission Pizza and Pub, 1572 Washington Blvd., Fremont, CA. For information, call 510-651-6858 or visit [www.missionpizza.com](http://www.missionpizza.com).
  - **Fresno** – Old time fiddle jam and dance from 7 - 10 pm every Saturday of each month at the Senior Citizens Village, 1917 Chestnut Ave., Fresno, CA. Sponsored by CSOTFA District 2. For information, contact Lynda Emanuels at 559-924-1766 or email [semanuels@comcast.net](mailto:semanuels@comcast.net).
  - **Kingsburg** – Bluegrass and Country jam session and potluck from 6-10 pm on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month at 1450 Ellis St., Kingsburg, CA. For information, contact Bud Cartwright at 559-582-9155 or 559-582-7680, or email [BudCartwright@comcast.net](mailto:BudCartwright@comcast.net).
  - **Long Beach** – Jam Session from 1-6 pm at Fendi's Cafe, 539 E Bixby Road, Long Beach, CA. For information, call 562-984-8187.
  - **Marysville** – Regular jam session from 3-6 pm on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Brick Coffee House Cafe, Marysville, CA. For information, call -530-743-0413 or 530 701-5090.
  - **Redwood City** – Bluegrass Jam, noon to 3 pm on the 3rd Saturday of every month at Bob's Court House Coffee Shop and Restaurant, 2198 Broadway, Redwood City, CA. Jennifer Kitchen facilitates the Jam and her Band "Kitchen Help" may be on-hand to add spice to the monthly event. For more information, call 650-780-0593.
  - **Sebastopol** – CBA Jam Session every Saturday from 2 to 5 pm at Catz Roastery, 6761 Sebastopol Avenue in Sebastopol, CA. (1st & 2nd Saturday – Old-time, bluegrass, old-country and more; 3rd Saturday – standard Bluegrass and last Saturday – pickers choice.) For information, call 707-829-6600.
  - **Squaw Valley** – Open Jam and Potluck, 5-9 pm on the last Saturday of every month at the Bear Mountain Library, 30733 E. Kings Canyon Road (Highway 180), Squaw Valley, CA. For information, contact Nancy or Henry Zuniga at 559-338-0026 or 559-476-0446.

**Attention bands, promoters, venues – if you would like to have your performances, concerts, festivals or jam sessions listed in Bluegrass Breakdown and on the CBA website, please send your information to CBA Calendar Editor Suzanne Denison at [bgs-breakdown@volcano.net](mailto:bgs-breakdown@volcano.net).**

Feeling helpful?

**Volunteer!**

Contact Rosanna:  
[rosanna@youngconstruction.com](mailto:rosanna@youngconstruction.com)



# RADIUS-M

NEW MANDOLIN TRANSDUCER



Mounts internally  
or externally

*L.R. Baggs*

"Clarity, naturalness, transparency and, above all, FUN!"  
—Stefano Tavernese, *Chitarre*

Available on Breedlove and Weber mandolins

RELENTLESS INNOVATION IN ACOUSTIC AMPLIFICATION

483 N. Frontage Rd. Nipomo CA 93444 • 805.929.3545 • [www.lrbaggs.com](http://www.lrbaggs.com)