DESERT BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

GRASS CLIPPINGS

Volume 23 Issue 5 February/March 2018

ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF GRASS CLIPPINGS

Starting with the April/May issue of Grass Clippings, the DBA membership will receive an electronic copy of Grass Clippings by email instead of USPS delivery. See President Dave Polston's article in this issue for details.

DBA PICKIN' CHRISTMAS 2017

Editor's Note: This year's Christmas Pickin' occurred at the Tucson Botanical Gardens Luminaria Nights, the Bear Canyon branch of the Public Library and at an Eastside Fry's Salvation Army Red Kettle.

Continued on Page 5

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Webmaster--Dale Lynne Vickroy**:** For information concerning the DBA website www.desertbluegrass.org contact the webmaster at DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com

Membership Secretary--Mike Headrick: To join the DBA, renew a membership or submit an address change, contact Mike via phone at (520) 760-0745, email, MBHeadrick@aol.com or snail mail, 13308 Placita el Algodon Tucson, AZ 85749

Publicity--Mike Headrick: Contact Mike at (520) 760-0745 or mbheadrick@aol.com

Advertising-- John David: To purchase advertising in our newsletter, contact by phone or email

NEWSLETTER ADVERTIZING PRICES

1/4 PAGE--$25 PER ISSUE, $100 ANNUAL
FULL PAGE--$60 PER ISSUE $240 ANNUAL
1/2 PAGE--$40 PER ISSUE, $160 ANNUAL
CLASSIFIED ADS--$5 FOR 5 LINES OR LESS*

*DBA Members Free, Space Permitting

The opinions expressed in the DBA newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent the views of the Desert Bluegrass Association, its staff or members. Reviews, concert listings, band announcements and advertising are for informational purposes only and do not constitute an endorsement by the Desert Bluegrass Association. In the event of an error, our liability is limited to printing a correction. Copyright 2013,. All Rights Reserved.

GREAT WEBSITES

Desert Bluegrass Association
www.desertbluegrass.org

Arizona Bluegrass Association
www.arizonabluegrass.com

Bluegrass Arizona Blog
www.bluegrassarizona.blogspot.com

Daily Dose of Bluegrass;
www.bluegrassonthetube.com

Bluegrass Lyrics
http://bluegrasslyrics.com/

Bluegrass Tablature
http://www.alltabs.com/bluegrass_tabs.php

Bluegrass Backing Tracks
http://www.fbbts.com/

Guitar:
www.bluegrassguitar.com/

Fiddle:
www.fiddlehangout.com

Banjo:
www.banjohangout.org

Bass:
www.bluegrassbassplace.com

Mandolin:
www.mandohangout.com/
http://www.mandolincafe.com/

Dobro:
www.reso-nation.org
www.resohangout.com

GREETINGS FELLOW BLUEGRASS LOVERS

By Dave Polston

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Well pickers and grinners, still on that diet? Exercising daily? Pickin everyday? I hope you are still sticking with the third one! Practicing even 10 to 15 minutes a day is better than a few hours on Saturday. So pick everyday!

It is a new year and with that we are starting something new. The next issue of our newsletter will be sent electronically. We are doing this to come into the 21st century and do our part to be green (blue/green). Viewing the newsletter on an electronic device is a better experience just with the color photos alone. Better graphics and capability to go directly to links presented in articles or information areas are added features. We will still offer a printed version to those who do not have access to the internet. When you re-up your membership for 2018 you will receive an email asking if you wish to opt out of the electronic version and receive the printed version. If you don't have email and access to the internet please contact any board member and we will get you on the print list. If you have become a member since November you are part of the 2018 membership. You will receive that email soon concerning this.

We will be holding our annual membership meeting on February 19th at 6 pm prior to the workshop at Christ Community Church. I would like to encourage all members to attend. This is an opportunity to meet the other musicians in the association. We will do something a little different at the workshop, so everyone bring your instruments. This will be a good chance for older, experienced members to meet the upcoming members and perhaps share some knowledge and tips on jamming.

The festival is approaching quickly, we are getting set to line up volunteers. We are also looking for volunteers to help with other projects throughout the year so we will see you all there at the meeting and get 2018 off to a great start!!! Pick everyday!!!!

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT FOR THE DBA

By Jeff Collins

Really gearing up for the 2018 Marana Bluegrass Festival. All the contracts have been sent to the performers and half already came back signed. The Festival website (http://www.maranafestival.com/) is up and active and you can purchase tickets and camping permits online via PayPal. The venue is much larger this year, with plenty of parking, camping and shade. It is at Gladden Farms Community Park on Tangerine and Lon Adams, about 1 1/2 Miles west of I-10.

Also, if you view this newsletter on the website via your computer, tablet or smartphone, you can click on the links for instant further information to make your Newsletter reading more pleasurable. This version is much more powerful than a paper copy as the links can provide extra reading and videos of your favorite bands and instructional bluegrass.

As far as charity giving and my band, Ocotillo Rain and Thunder; we played a month of performances for Project Healing Waters (http://www.projecthealingwaters.org/). This is a National organization with a local Tucson Chapter for our injured veterans, we directed our money to the local chapter; they assist our injured veterans get back to normal life through fly fishing, it works! This past two months, December and January we chose Marana Community Food Band (http://www.communityfoodbank.org/Locations/Marana). They are affiliated with the Tucson branch but don't receive the funding Tucson gets, we're hoping our 2 month charity giving provides a huge impact on this small Food Bank. Upcoming we have Interfaith Community Service

DBA PICKIN' CHRISTMAS 2017
(Continued)

BOTANICAL GARDENS

Continued on Page 6

Guitar Center
ALL WE SELL IS THE GREATEST FEELING ON EARTH

Spectrum Printing Company, LLC

DBA PICKIN' CHRISTMAS 2017
(Continued)

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE PICKIN'

Continued on Page 12

The FOLK SHOP

MUSICAL TREASURES

New, Used, & Vintage Instruments From Around the World

Sure, we have lots of Banjos (399, we sold one), but we also have many:

Great Guitars

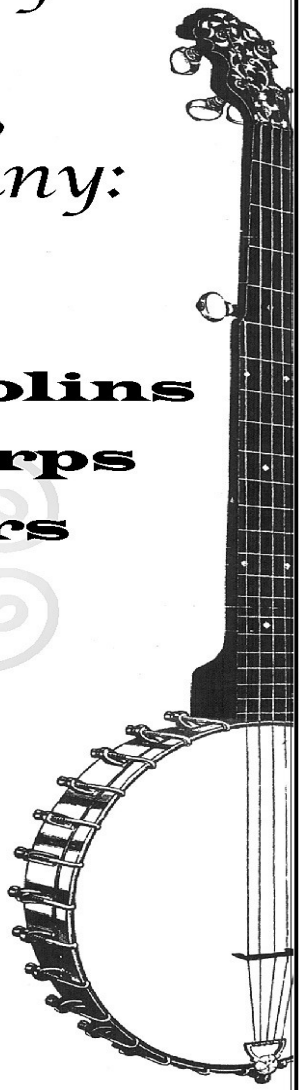
Magnificant Mandolins

Awesome Autoharps

Dandy Dulcimers

Fine Fiddles

& Wonderful Weird Stuff



And what a concept, you get to play the musical instrument that you're thinking of buying.

2525 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719
520-881-7147
folks@thefolkshop.com
www.thefolkshop.com

BANDS

The 2 Lazy 2 Ranch Band
John Hall 520-647-1234

Bear Canyon Ramblers
Marilyn 520-760-0479
bluegrassjamboree@gmail.com
www.bearcanyonramblers.com

Cabin John
Howard Anderson--480-897-7425
Anni Beach--480-963-6811
www.cabinjohnbluegrass.com

Dusty River Boys
Rich Errico 520 818 0358
Rerrico1@q.com

Jam Pak Blues 'N' Grass Neighborhood Band
www.jampak.com
Anni Beach - 480-963-6811

Los Hombres
Kenny Erickson 520-235-7473

MojoGrass
520-369-7524
www.facebook.com/mojograss
mojograssaz@gmail.com

Ocotillo Rain and Thunder
Contact: Holly Tripp
Phone: 520-241-8421
Web: ocotillorain.blogspot.com

Old Pueblo Bluegrass
Reid Griffin 520-349-4321
http://www.maranafestival.com/old-pueblo-bluegrass.html

Peter McLaughlin
520-247-1027

Scattered Grass
www.scatteredgrass.com
robertfrankot@msn.com
Bob Frankot 520-299-7479

The Sonoran Dogs
Peter McLaughlin 520-247-1027
Brian Davies 520-349-9497
www.thesonorandogs.com

Titan Valley Warheads
Ed Davenport 520-904-6050
www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/The-Titan-Valley-Warheads/161939573828277

Way Out West
Emmy Creigh 520-323-0704

INSTRUCTION

Reid Griffin
Guitar Instruction All Levels and Styles
(520) 349-4321

Nate Lee
Live Online Mandolin & Fiddle Lessons
469-383-4840
www.TheNateLee.com

Andy McCune
Bluegrass & clawhammer banjo, mandolin, and beginning Dobro
520-869-6818

Peter McLaughlin
Flatpick & bluegrass guitar: Beginner & advanced 520-247-1027

Dave Polston
Banjo, Guitar & Dobro lessons
520-245-6126

Mike Purdy
Guitar, mandolin & Banjo 520-977-9780

Marc Rennard
Fiddle, Mandolin, and Guitar
314-313-0318
cramdranner@yahoo.com
Expert repairs – Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass, Fretted Instruments
Bow Rehair

Jeff Sanders
Guitar & banjo Chicago Store Eastside 520-850-9802

TO INSTRUCTORS & BANDS

Would you like your services, band, and or concerts listed on our website www.desertbluegrass.org? Current DBA members can be listed by sending their contact information to Dale Lynne Vickroy at DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com. Refer to the 'Links' tab on the homepage to view current band and instructor information. We have added a second calendar on the website for other (non- DBA) concerts and events. If you have something scheduled that you would like added to the calendar: send me the date, time and address info. You may also include a link to your band's website or to a special event flyer. Info can be posted under the 'Events' tab. That would need to be specifically requested since I expect that people will begin using the calendar instead. Please submit information in plain text. Varied fonts, colors, formatting, and inserted graphics are extremely time consuming to match in the webpage editor.

The Mandolin Store

"The Most Helpful Shop On The Planet"

www.themandolinstore.com

Our Surprise Arizona showroom boasts the largest assortment of new quality mandolins on the planet from all major brands including Gibson. You'll also find Gibson and Martin acoustic guitars along with accessories all musician's need. Coming this Fall we'll be adding a selection of banjos as well. We hope to begin workshops for mandolin, banjo, and guitar early in 2013 as well as expand our showroom hours

Call Today - 623-933-8319

A MEMORIAL TO JOHN DAWSON, 1955-2017

By Daniel Bieg

A hero of mine passed away last October. He was almost 62. I call him a hero because he lived his life with sweetness, grace and humor even in the face of a debilitating illness. A few years before I met John he was diagnosed with Lewy body dementia, an illness related to Parkinson's disease. John knew he was fading from this world, yet he was able to be bright, funny and he had the wonderful ability to find a positive side to any situation.

John had a degree in Russian language and a Masters degree in Special Education. He was a family man and devoted husband to his lovely wife Julee, who stayed by his side comforting him until the end. He was a loving father to his daughter Natalee, whom John would repeatedly describe as one of the "smartest people in the world." He would often remind me that she was going to a "fancy" college in the east. He was a very proud father who never missed an opportunity to brag about his smart, beautiful daughter.

In 2011, I showed up with my first mandolin at one of the DBA workshops. It was here that I first met John Dawson and was lucky to become his friend. A talented musician, he loved to play both his Martin guitar and his prize possession, a Monteleone mandolin. John had musically adopted me as a beginning student. As an older adult I was starting out trying to learn an instrument and I was a slow learner. John had been a high school teacher as well as a professional bluegrass mandolin player; he had the patience of a great instructor. He loved sharing his deep knowledge of bluegrass and old-time music. John would show me some mandolin basics and have me try it. He would show me again, and I would try it again, and again, and again! John would always be smiling and encouraging me. He never seemed bored or irritated by my mistakes. He was just happy that I kept trying.

Continued on Page 11

ESSARY
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Sound

A MEMORIAL TO JOHN DAWSON, 1955-2017
(Continued)

I was so lucky to have several years with John in my life. As he faded and had trouble playing music, he still wanted to attend the Monday night workshops. He loved music and really missed the weeks when we couldn't attend the workshop because my work took me out of town. Many times when I picked him up he would get confused with simple tasks, he would give me a silly look and we would both laugh at the funny situations he would get himself into. He could always laugh at himself. In all our talks about music he would make sure I knew what "real bluegrass" music was and how it should be played. He loved telling me the story of how he met Ralph Stanley at Clinch Mountain and he was also proud of his time as the mandolin player in the band Hot Corn, from 1979 to 1982. Hot Corn's other band members were Bob Amos on banjo, Rob Griffin on guitar, and Jim O'Haver on bass. He also performed with Bob Meighan, Peter McLaughlin and others around Arizona. Later, when he didn't talk much anymore, his eyes would light up as I played the mandolin and he would sing along with me. He loved music and it seemed to be good medicine for him.

John Dawson was one of the founding members of the Desert Bluegrass Association. He lived for his family and loved bluegrass music. Thank you John, for all you have done for the Bluegrass scene in Tucson. You will always be loved and remembered. Rest in peace my friend. May you always hear the music you love.

DBA PICKIN' CHRISTMAS 2017
(Continued)

BEAR CANYON LIBRARY

ANNUAL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2018 AT 6:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION
Christ Community Church
7801 E. Kenyon Drive, Tucson

Note: Folks should park in the North Parking Lot.
The Annual Meeting Will Precede The Workshop

AGENDA

"State of the Grass" – Dave Polston
Treasurer Report – Marlene Simpson
Election of Officers and Trustees for 2018
Scholarship Plans For 2018 – Scott Warren/Paul Simpson
Report on Marana Festival – David Lanham/Jeff Collins

DBA Events
FEBRUARY 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4 **JAM** **3:00 pm - 5:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	5 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	6 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	7	8 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Far Horizons** 555 N. Pantano	9	10 **JAM** **12:00pm - 2:00 pm** **VA Hospital** Bldg 60 6th Ave & Ajo
11	12 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	13 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	14	15 **JAM** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Pinnacle Peak Court Yard** 6541 E. Tanque Verde Rd.	16	17 **CLINIC** **Banjo** Andy McCune & Tom Poley **2:00 pm - 4:00 pm** **Chicago Music Store** 5646 E. Speedway
18 **ANNUAL MEETING @6PM**	19 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	20 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	21	22 **JAM** **5:00 pm - 6:30 pm** **Sierra del Sol Senior Living (Dining Room)** 8151 E. Speedway	23	24
25 **JAM** **4:00 pm - 6:00 pm** **Thirsty's Neighborhood Grill** 2422 N. Pantano	26 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	27 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	28			

DBA Events
MARCH 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4 **JAM** **3:00 pm - 5:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	5 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	6 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	7	8 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Far Horizons** 555 N. Pantano	9	10 **JAM** **12:00pm - 2:00 pm** **VA Hospital** Bldg 60 6th Ave & Ajo
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25 **JAM** **4:00 pm - 6:00 pm** **Thirsty's Neighborhood Grill** 2422 N. Pantano	26 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	27 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	28	29	30	31

The Big Bang Theory of Bluegrass ©
by Wayne Erbsen

If the “big bang theory” helps to explain the origin of the universe, perhaps “the big bang theory of bluegrass” will shed some light on the origin of the bluegrass music universe.

First, let me say that there are two schools of thought as to the origins of bluegrass music. One has Bill Monroe single-handedly inventing bluegrass music around 1945. The other takes a more evolutionary approach, with a number of musicians and bands contributing to the sound we now call “bluegrass.” In particular, this approach points to Wade and JE Mainer’s Mountaineers as the first band that had all the ingredients of bluegrass music going back at least to 1935. For this article, let’s put aside the evolutionary argument, and concentrate on the theory that Bill Monroe invented bluegrass.

It is commonly known that Bill and Charlie, the Monroe Brothers, had a contentious and turbulent relationship. Perhaps Charlie said it best, “We were hot-headed and mean as snakes.” In early 1938, they went their separate ways. To replace Bill, Charlie hired Zeke Morris to play mandolin and sing tenor. Interestingly enough, Zeke had been a mainstay of Mainer’s Mountaineers.

Bill Monroe, on the other hand, was looking for a lead singer and guitar player to replace his brother Charlie. To accomplish his goal, Bill placed a small ad in the Atlanta, Georgia, newspaper looking for someone who played guitar and sang old-time songs. Among the musicians who showed up at Bill’s small travel trailer to audition was a nervous young man named Cleo Davis. Bill hired him on the spot because Bill’s wife, Carolyn, reinforced Bill’s opinion that Davis’ voice sounded almost exactly like that of brother Charlie Monroe.

It is my contention that the short audition of Cleo Davis in Bill’s small trailer in 1938 is the big bang of bluegrass. It is when Bill hired the first of a long line of sidemen who would make up Bill’s legendary band, The Blue Grass Boys. The rest, my friends, is history.

Let me tell you how I became involved in all this. In late 1981, I

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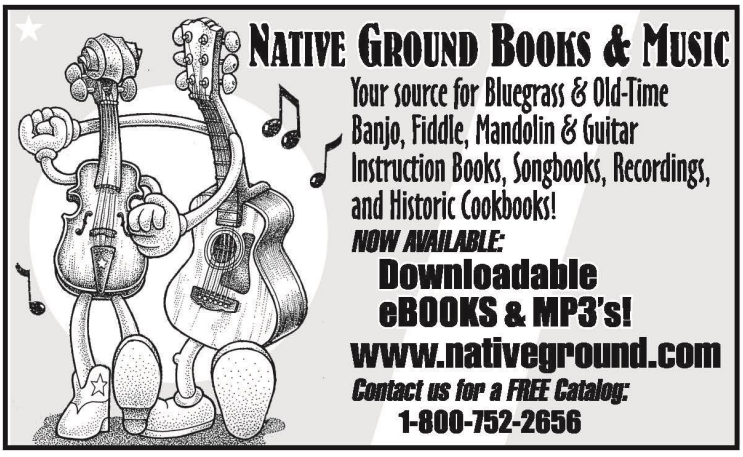
The Big Bang Theory of Bluegrass ©
(Continued)

received a personal letter from Cleo Davis, who by then was calling himself JC Davis. He had read an article I had written for ***Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine*** on Wiley and Zeke, the Morris Brothers. Cleo or JC contacted me in an effort to reestablish contact with the Morris Brothers, whom he had not seen since that late l930s. In addition to providing him with contact information to get in touch with the Morris Brothers, I asked if I could interview him for another article in ***Bluegrass Unlimited.*** He readily agreed and seemed anxious to tell his story. At the time he was living in Lakeland, Florida, and I made my home near Asheville, North Carolina. Because of the difficulty of getting together, I asked him if I could send him some questions via letter, and if he could record his answers on a cassette tape. He quickly consented to this somewhat unorthodox interview method. Many letters and cassette tapes went back and forth, and my article finally appeared in ***Bluegrass Unlimited*** in February, 1982. As far as I know, I was the only one to interview Cleo or JC Davis about his roll in the origins of Bill's band, the Bluegrass Boys. Unfortunately, he passed away a short time later.

Thanks to the wonders of computers, you can actually listen to those tapes I made by going to http://dla.acaweb.org/ Simply type in "Cleo Davis," and you're good to go. To read my entire article in ***Bluegrass Unlimited***, with all the details of the "Big Bang of Bluegrass" theory go to my website http://www.nativeground.com/ Click on "Articles" and then click the article, "Cleo Davis, the Original Bluegrass Boy." This information can also be found in the book, ***The Rural Roots of Bluegrass*** by yours truly, Wayne Erbsen.

Wayne Erbsen is a musician, author, publisher, teacher and radio host. Check out his instruction books and songbooks for banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin plus books of songs and lore of cowboys, railroads, cowboys, outlaws, gospel, plus historic cookbooks by visiting http://www.nativeground.com/



6TH ANNUAL MARANA BLUEGRASS AND ACOUSTIC FESTIVAL

By David Lanham & Jeff Collins

Hello music lovers! Most of us have recovered from last April's festival and the town of Marana is welcoming us back, so we are planning another festival next April. The dates for the festival are as follows, April 13th, 14th and 15th, 2018. Festival will be held at Gladden Park, 12207 N. Heritage Park Dr., Marana, Arizona. We have had to move festival site due to construction set for 2018 at the Ora Mae Harn park site. The new Gladden Park site is much easier to reach via Tangerine Road, also there is much more RV parking and likewise the tent camping will be on manicured grass. So all in all this should be a nice festival experience.

We believe in showcasing local talent and encouraging original material, so we have a really eclectic group of performers for the next festival. We will continue with the FREE singer/songwriter showcase on the 13th of April, that evening entertainment is the DBA's way of showing our appreciation to the town of Marana for being a huge sponsor. Thank you Town of Marana and your Parks and Recreation Department!

For the 14th and 15th we are continuing with the theme of showcasing bands that play in the region, write their own material, which many of you may be familiar with, but give an opportunity to others who may not be have seen them play yet. We will welcome back some crowd favorites and introduce a few new groups and performers. We will mix a little bluegrass with Blues and maybe some straight up fun songs from others. Check the website for the full story!

I hesitate to say we have a headliner, because many of the local groups are so talented, but Chris Jones and the Night Drivers have graciously agreed to fulfill that role. Chris Jones has been true to the bluegrass tradition, he is the author of numerous instruction manuals, and he keeps the tradition alive on web radio and still performs many festivals throughout the country. Chris writes much of his own material, when he does a cover; he picks the tastiest songs out there. He brings feeling, tasty tunes, lovely licks, great harmonies; we love this guy and his fellow musicians!

John David and I will be getting the festival website up and running, in between dealing with the holidays. As usual we will have volunteer slots available, apply early, they fill up quickly. We ask a 4 hour shift to qualify for free admission for the festival.

Sorry folks but free RV Camping is Not included in the volunteer slots, unless you are Tent camping, which is free for everyone. RV camping will be Ten dollars nightly, Sunday night is not charged.

Thanks for all you do members!

David and Jeff

MARANA BLUEGRASS & ACOUSTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL 2018

Desert Bluegrass Association
Tucson, Arizona

MARANA AZ
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

APRIL 13, 14 & 15

Gladden Farms Community Park, 12207 N Heritage Park Dr. Marana, AZ

HEADLINER: CHRIS JONES & THE NIGHT DRIVERS

April 13 4 PM - 8 PM

Free Concert Featuring Special Original Music Performed By Local Singer/Song Writers

April 14 10:45 AM - 8:00 PM

April 15 9:45 AM - 5:00 PM

Performances By:

The Sonoran Dogs
Run Boy Run
Billy Parker Band
The Heather "Lil Mama" Hardy Band
The Dust Devils
The 2 Lazy 2 Ranch Band
Annie Beach and Jam Pak
Don Armstrong & The Whiskeypalians

www.maranafestival.com

A Memorable Night of Bluegrass…

DEDE WYLAND
&
THE SONORAN DOGS

Friday April 6 @ 8 PM (doors open @7:30)

St. Francis in the Foothills, 4825 E. River Road (just W. of Swan)

Dede Wyland's pure and compelling voice has enchanted audiences around the globe. As a legendary female bluegrass pioneer of both the traditional & progressive Bluegrass genre, she is no newcomer to the bluegrass scene. During her many years as a touring musician, Dede has graced the stages of America's most prestigious bluegrass and acoustic music venues and festivals; from the Kennedy Center to Telluride. Radio listeners have heard Dede on nationally broadcast shows including: *A Prairie Home Companion* and *Mountain Stage*. Her recordings, session work, and concert performances with the cream of Washington's DC's bluegrass players has brought Dede an eleven time win for "Female Bluegrass Singer of the Year" (WAMMIE's) and an award for her CD release *Keep The Light On*.

Dede will **WOW** you with her dynamic vocals and driving rhythm guitar style complimented by Tucson's own phenomenal…**THE SONORAN DOGS!** This well- loved group touts many accolades of their own (TNTC). Members: Peter Mclaughlin (guitar), Mark Miracle (Mandolin), Brian Davies (Bass), Nick Coventry (Violin), Tyler James (Banjo) stellar musicianship and vocal blend with Dede will thrill you in an electrifying performance leaving you wondering……

How in the Bluegrass World do they do that?!

GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS: $20, $18 Advance for (DBA,KXCI,TKMA,TFTM)
$3 more at the door.
Advance Sales: Folk Shop (2525 N. Campbell Ave.) Chicago Music Store (5646 E Speedway), Antigone Books (411 N. 4th Ave.) or online at InConcerttucson.com. More Info: 319-8599

Please be aware that the Folk Shop & Chicago Music Store accepts cash or check only, Antigone has a $1 CC fee, InConcert! online is a $3/ticket sur charge. Credit Cards will be accepted at the door.

Walker Creek Music Camp

April 12-15, 2018

at the Walker Creek Ranch, west of Petaluma, CA

For students of all ages who love to play or sing

Bluegrass, Old Time, and Swing!
with occasional exploration into other related styles

~ Instructors ~

Good Ol' Persons Reunion: **Kathy Kallick, John Reischman, Paul Shelasky, Sally van Meter, Bethany Raine**
also: Chris Stuart, Janet Beazley, Annie Staninec, John Kael, Betse Ellis, Thomas Sneed, Roy Andrade
Cary Black, Keith Little, Luke Abbott, Nina Gerber, Raul Reynoso, and guest teacher Clarke Wyatt

Kids Music & More class with Morgan Cochneuer & Rebecca Richman
Dance caller: Erik Hoffman *Flatfoot teacher: Rebecca Stout*

Registration opens Feb 1st!
www.walkercreekmusiccamp.org
(415) 663-6030

Walker Creek Music Camp

JAMS & OPEN MICS

DBA sponsored jams are listed at www.desertbluegrass.org & on the enclosed calendar.

Southern AZ Old Time Fiddlers Assn.
Southwest Community Center
Cardinal Ave, Tucson, AZ
Tuesday 7 PM
Info: Wilbur 520-743-7086

Catalina Mountain Chapter of the AZ Old Time Fiddlers Association Fiddler's Workshop
3rd Monday at 7 PM
Info: Rusty 520-981-8152

Open Mic at The Hut on 4th Ave
Every Sunday 6 - 9:00 PM
Info: Rudy Cortese@gmail.com

Kibbey's Jam and Open Mic
Info: Jim Howard, 520-825-9413
Twin Lakes Drive, Catalina, AZ
Every Friday Night 6:30 PM–9:00 PM

1st Baptist Church Jam and Open Mic
Wilds Road, Catalina, Arizona
Info: Jim Howard, 520-825-9413
Every Saturday, 6:30 PM-9:00 PM

Casa Grande Airport Jam
1st and 3rd Saturday, 12:00 pm. Casa Grande Municipal Airport, 3225 N Lear Ave. Casa Grande Az. Acoustic stringed instruments only, NO Amps, Bluegrass songs preferred. Contact Steve Hartwell ste-ve@arizonabluegrass.com

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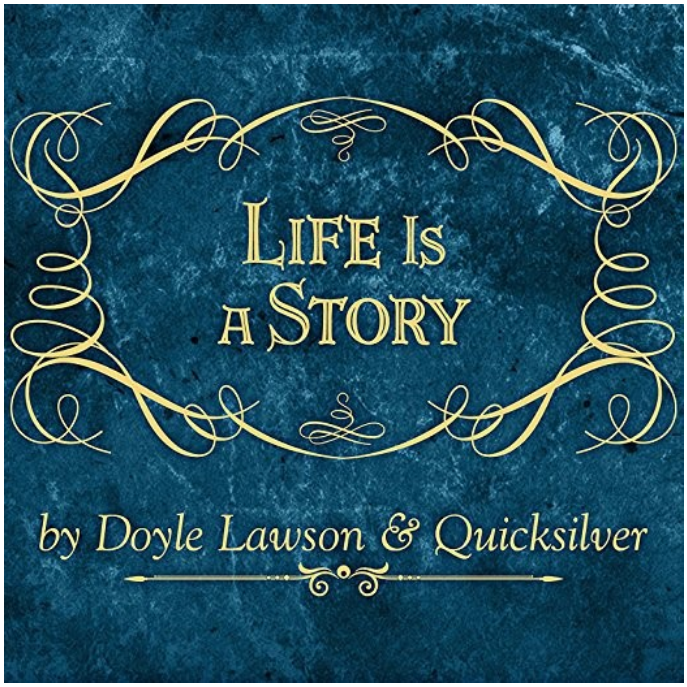
LIFE IS A STORY 2017
DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER
Mountain Home Music Company
Review by Marilyn Ryan Hulbert

After 40 albums, and four decades since the forming of Quicksilver, Doyle Lawson is, as always, able to present a wonderful CD of combined styles of bluegrass music. He got his beginnings with Jimmy Martin, the Country Gentlemen and J.D. Crowe. He was a member of the Bluegrass Band with Tony Rice, J.D., Bobby Hicks and Todd Phillips.

Doyle sings Lead and Baritone vocals and plays mandolin and mandola. He is playing a “Doyle Lawson Signatures model” mandolin built by Gibson USA and a mandola built by Craig Wilson.

Josh Swift is playing Resophonic Guitar, acoustic lead Guitar and percussion.



Joe Dean Is playing Banjo and Guitar.

Dustin Pyrtle is singing lead and tenor Vocals and playing Guitar.

Eli Johnston play Bass and sings lead and baritone Vocals.

Stephen Burwell is playing Fiddle.

Josh Swift is playing a “Josh Swift Signature Model Beard Guitar” by Paul Beard.

The first song is called “Kids These Days” and will tell you about what folks experienced 20 years ago. It really is an amazing song, written so well. Doyle Lawson has always striven for perfect harmonies is his band throughout the years. I have felt the vibration of the speakers and the air around me when seeing him on stage at festivals.

“Little Girl” – she had an awful beginning, but eventually found a new family, after the death of her parents. A timely story. Be ready with your hanky. Harmonies are amazing.

“Life of a Hard Workin’ Man” – written by Joe Dean, Eli Johnston and Dustin Pyrtle. Here’s some blue-collar bluegrass that just rocks! Instrumental breaks including that custom Beard reso guitar are gorgeous!

“Life to My Days” written by Jerry Salley, Lee Black and Devin McGlamery. Philosophic – “add more life to my days” is what this song tells us. Tells us to remember to call Mama and tell her you love her! The harmonies are so pretty!!

“I See a Heartbreak Comin’” – written by Doyle Lawson and Paul M. Humphrey. This is bluegrass song with the timing, words and a tune that make it the perfect jamming song with a chorus about cryin’ and sadness. Love it!

Continued on Page 26

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LIFE IS A STORY 2017
DOYLE LAWSON & QUICKSILVER
(Continued)

"Guitar Case" – at first, I thought this was too folky or maybe too country, but as the song progressed, I was riveted to listening to the story and found this to be a great one!! The instruments are so perfect!

"What Am Living For" – Chuck Willis sang it on Atlantic Records in 1958. Percy Sledge did too in 1966. We all sang along to the radio. This bluegrass versions makes me sing it all over again in jumpin' ¾ time! Awesome!!!

"Bluegrass Blues" - This says "shed a tear for the man with the bluegrass blues." There is some oooing in the song and I don't really feel blue here. This song is a bit modern. Anyway, if you can play bluegrass, you are never alone!

"Derailed" – this is up tempo and there is some nice fast music played in here. Not a traditional bluegrass melody, but the harmonies and the instrumentals are fantastic!

"Love Lives Again" – Here's a two-step rhythm, a honky-tonk, buckle polishin' heartbreaker. OK, this one gives me chills down to my fingertips. This is written by George Richey and Carmol Taylor. The harmonies just make you want sail away on a bluegrass cloud!

"Cry Across Kansas" is a good leaving and crying song. The guitar break is a beauty!

"Drivin' It Home" by Jerry Salley and Kerry Kurt Phillips. This is a fine ending to a really great album. Unbeatable vocals and instrumentals!

I did not include every songwriter in this review, although they all are so talented. Please look on the internet if you need additional information. It is all at your fingertips. The bluegrass cyber world is wonderful.

Otherwise – as always – thank you Doyle Lawson for being in our world! You are truly one of the greatest!

See you all at some of the jams and at the Marana Bluegrass Festival. Keep supporting bluegrass music, and keep pickin' those tunes.

Marilyn

"I guess you've heard that over in ACOUSTIC there's a big brouhaha between the roots and the bluegrass sectors over who gets Doc Watson."

ASSOCIATIONS

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Membership dues for the Desert Bluegrass Association are $20 annually per family, due March 1st, and includes bulk mailing of the bi-monthly newsletter to each member.
Members joining after November of any year will have their membership extended through the next year. Those joining before November must renew the following March 1st.

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