

# GRASS CLIPPINGS

Volume 14 Issue 7

April/May 2009



## State of the Grass by President "Doc" Simpson

Greeting Bluegrass Aficionados. We've had an exciting start to 2009. In January we had 27 members come together for our first-ever Planning Day. From 8am to 3pm we discussed our mission statement, challenges we're facing, and opportunities for the DBA. It proved to be a day of wide-ranging discussion, brain-storming, and team-building. The best part is that we came away from our time with the formation of "Action Teams" devoted to working on particular goals during the months to come. These include:

- The **Festival Action Team**, headed by Mike Headrick, which has since met and been planning our annual festival and looking into creative ways to save on costs and increase financial support.
- The **Jam Action Team**, headed by Charlie Sides, has already met and is exploring ways to better structure and promote performances, jams, and paid gigs.

- The **Workshop Action Team**, headed by yours truly, has already created exciting changes to the Beginners Workshop.

- The **Membership Action Team**, headed by Klyle Stall, has already met to create better services to our members, bring in new members, and put together a membership directory for all of us to use.

- The **Clinic Action Team**, headed by Marshal Vest, has done a knock-out job on creating monthly "instrument clinics", led by experienced musicians/instructors. We're doing these in partnership with the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Market & World Music shop.

In the last two months we've had some terrific events:

- Jack put together a performance jam at the Voyager RV Park. It was very well attended, a blast to play in, and raised considerable funds for the DBA.

- Doc Reifschneider continues to lead exciting performances on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. on Saturdays. This has proven to be a great way of creating awareness of the

DBA in the community and raise money.

- Charlie Sides has cultivated unbelievable jams on the Northwest side. The first Thursday of every month we're been at **Vero Amore Restaurant** and the third Sunday of each month we've been at **Espresso Drini**. These have been very well attended by pickers and gridders and has opened up the DBA to literally thousands of people on the northwest corridor. Great job Charlie!

- Klyle Stall has been hosting a monthly jam in Casa Grande on the first Saturday of each month. He has also created The Street Jam in Casa Grande on the first Tuesday of each month. Call him at (520) 421-2596 or e-mail him at klylen@aol.com.

- We had our first-ever "Picken' at the Peak". The night before the Rodeo Parade, over 30 players and a truckload of gridders showed up at Pinnacle Peak to jam and listen. At one point in the evening I took a walk

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**Webmaster--Bill Trapp:** For information concerning the DBA website [www.DesertBluegrass.org](http://www.DesertBluegrass.org) contact the webmaster at [trapp@wbhsi.net](mailto:trapp@wbhsi.net)

**Membership Secretary--Fran Riggs:** To join the DBA, renew a membership or submit an address change, contact Fran via phone at (520) 490-4560, email [Franriggs@aol.com](mailto:Franriggs@aol.com) or snail mail 17247 E. Peach Tree Road, Mayer, Arizona 86333-4146

**Publicity--Mike Headrick:** Contact Mike at (520) 760-0745 or [MBHeadrick@aol.com](mailto:MBHeadrick@aol.com)

**Booking Bands--Bonnie Lohman:** To book a DBA band for an event, phone 520-296-1231 or email [basslady78@comcast.net](mailto:basslady78@comcast.net)

**Advertising--Bonnie Lohman:** To purchase advertising in our newsletter, contact by phone or email

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### MEMBERSHIP DISPLAY ADS

### PRICES

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 1/2 PAGE--\$40 PER ISSUE, \$160 ANNUAL  
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 DBA members free space permitting

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## 24th Annual Tucson Folk Festival

## May 2 & 3, 2009

The Tucson Kitchen Musicians' Association (TKMA) is pleased to announce the headlining artists for the 2009 Tucson Folk Festival, one of the largest free festivals in the United States. With continuous music on four stages, the weekend begins on Saturday, May 2 at 12:00 p.m., with music through 10:00 p.m.; on Sunday, May 3, the festival runs from 11:00 a.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m.

On Saturday night, two headliners are featured on the Plaza Stage:

At 8:00 p.m., Grammy winners and multi-instrumentalists **Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer** perform their superb harmonies accompanied by a variety of acoustic strings and percussion. Billboard Magazine described their music "as close to flawless folk/bluegrass as it gets." This dynamic duo will also perform for the Children's Show on Sunday at the Courtyard Stage.

On Saturday evening at 9:00 p.m., **Todd Snider** and his acoustic guitar delivers his unique blend of wry word-smithing and poignant songs. Todd has been called "his generation's Will Rogers, an amiable, plainspoken, wise-cracking story teller and champion of the common man – just add a guitar and a pickup truck."

On Sunday evening, with a career spanning more than 40 years, 25 albums and nu-

merous world tours, singer-songwriter **Eric Andersen** performs at 8:00 p.m. on the Plaza Stage with his mix of traditional folk and blues. He will be collaborating with famed local musician Harvey Brooks. Eric Andersen's songs have been recorded by artists all over the world, including Judy Collins, Fairport Convention, Peter Paul and Mary, Rick Nelson, Linda Ronstadt, The Grateful Dead and Francoise Hardy.

TKMA is partnering again with community radio, KXCI 91.3 FM to broadcast all weekend performances from the Plaza Stage with a one-hour tape delay.

Past years' headliners have included: Odetta, Richie Havens, Rory Block, Tish Hinojosa, Jimmy LaFave, Guy Clark, Al Stewart, Tim O'Brien, Chris Smither, Karla Bonoff, David Wilcox, Laura Love, Hans Olson, Rosie Flores, John Cowan Band, Austin Lounge Lizards, Aztec Two Step, Bill Miller, Terri Hendrix, Joyce Andersen, Ruthie Foster and Harvey Reid.

Each year, more than 10,000 music fans make their way downtown to the Tucson Folk Festival to enjoy a wide variety of acoustic music. Over 100 local, regional and national acts will perform on Saturday and Sunday, May 2 - 3, offering continuous live music featuring folk, blues, Celtic, bluegrass, folk-rock,

world, country, gospel, and Cajun rhythms on four stages.

The four stages are all within walking distance from the corner of Church Street and Alameda Street, allowing for many musical choices. The Plaza Stage is at El Presidio Park; the Courtyard Stage is on the lawn of the Old Pima County Courthouse. The Museum Stage is at the Tucson Museum of Art; the Old Town Artisans stage is located in the courtyard of the Old Town Artisans complex at 201 North Court Avenue, adjacent to the Tucson Museum of Art. TKMA President Susan Liechti remarks: "We are very excited to bring these artists to Tucson. We think it's a great mix: Eric Andersen is one of the American masters of folk music; Todd Snider reflects a more recent movement in Americana with a unique, humorous twist. And we are thrilled to bring Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, they have a great mix of traditional and contemporary bluegrass-folk, plus swing and old-time country...and they yodel! This will be another fantastic Tucson Folk Festival, free and for the whole family."

The schedule for all Tucson Folk Festival events and performing artist information will be updated at the official website as it is confirmed: visit [www.TKMA.org](http://www.TKMA.org) or call 520-792-6481 for updates.

# DBA Member Band Performances

By **Charlie Sides**

This is Part 2 of a 2 part Article to chronicle the 'womb to tomb' highlights of a paid performance by a DBA Member Band at the South Forty RV Resort. Part 1 of this Article, published in the previous DBA Newsletter,

**Here's the rest of the story.**

There was some discussion

regarding the sound system for the gig. Between Dave and Bill a tentative plan was made using the DBA system supplemented with some personally owned equipment. Bill would be checking with the South Forty to verify the gig particulars and may find out more re: the sound system at the South Forty. It took over three hours of practice time to get through the entire set list; that was without

taking a break. Here's a picture of the band members, after the marathon session.

***Next practice is only a week away***  
**CHECKING THE SOUND SYSTEM-**

Bill released the following memo:

"Lynn and I stopped by the South Forty RV Park this afternoon and inspected the room and sound system. The sound system is a very small



Caption describing picture or graphic.

## Events

**The Bluegrass Radio Show with Milo**  
 Saturday 10 am - 12 noon  
 KXCI 91.3 FM  
 520-622-5924 requests

**Titan Valley Warheads**  
 Li'l Abner's Steakhouse  
 8501 N Silverbell Road, Tucson  
 Sundays 6:30-9:30 PM  
 Info: Ed 520-622-3699

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST DBA MEMBERS

Dan & Aina Dickerson	Tucson
Roland A. Goin	Danville, IL
Norma & Ken Vance	Tucson
Burtis "Andy" Williams	Jonesville, MI
Randy Campbell	Tucson
Erhan & Martha Erdem	Tucson
Greg & Carol Pearse	Glendale, AZ
John Sepulveda	Tucson

## Instruction

**Bill Breen**

Scruggs style banjo by ear. 520-544-2418  
[www.banjohangout.org/myhangout/music.asp](http://www.banjohangout.org/myhangout/music.asp)

**Casey**

Harmonic instruction 520-887-2148

**Corrine Cortese**

Fiddle lessons 520-235-3199

**Rudy Cortese**

Banjo lessons 520-954-2103

**Peter McLaughlin**

Flatpick & bluegrass guitar: Beginner & advanced 520-529-2992

**Mike Purdy**

Guitar & mandolin 520-318-0659

**Lindianne Sarno**

Fiddle 520-325-8752

**J.P. Thom-Gronachan**

Banjo, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, theory 520-682-6201

**Mike Wallner**

Banjo, Scruggs, melodic & clawhammer 520-327-8259

**Tim Wiedenkiller**

Banjo, traditional, melodic, progressive, jazz, blues, world and classical  
 520-795-4058 [www.tucsonbanjo.com](http://www.tucsonbanjo.com)

## Associations

### Arizona Bluegrass Association

7257 N. 50th Dr.  
Glendale, AZ 85301  
Rick Rhodes--Chair  
623-435-8406  
Email:  
luvkomidy@hotmail.com  
www.azbluegrass.org

### International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA)

207 E. Second Street  
Owensboro, KY 42303  
502-926-7891

### So. Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association

3020 W. Avenida Cresta  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Info: Wilbur 520-743-7086

### Tucson Friends of Traditional Music

Info: 520-408-6181  
www.tftm.org

### Tucson Harmonica Club

Info: 520-887-2148

### Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association

PO Box 26531  
Tucson, AZ 85726  
www.tkma.org

### Tucson Old Time Music Circle

Banjo\_brad@thegrid.net  
Brad 520-818-0260  
www.totmc.org

## Jams

All DBA sponsored jams and performances are listed separately on the enclosed calendar and the DBA website at [www.DesertBluegrass.org](http://www.DesertBluegrass.org)

### Southern AZ Old Time Fiddlers Assn.

Southwest Community Center  
Cardinal Ave, Tucson, AZ  
Tuesday 7 PM  
Info: Wilbur 520-743-7086

### Tradition Acoustic Bluegrass Jam Sessions

Tempe, AZ  
Wednesday 7-10 PM  
Please call for confirmation of dates  
Info: Howard or Susan  
480-897-7425

### Catalina Mountain Chapter of the AZ Old Time Fiddlers Association

3rd Monday at 7 PM  
Info: Laura 520-743-9491

## Great Websites Check 'Em Out!

Bluegrass Arizona Blog: [www.bluegrassarizona.blogspot.com](http://www.bluegrassarizona.blogspot.com)

Banjo: [www.banjohangout.org](http://www.banjohangout.org)  
Fiddle: [www.fiddlehangout.com](http://www.fiddlehangout.com)  
Dobro: [www.reso-nation.org](http://www.reso-nation.org) or  
[www.resohangout.com](http://www.resohangout.com)  
Bass: [www.bluegrassbassplace.com](http://www.bluegrassbassplace.com)

## Bands

### Bear Canyon Ramblers

Marilyn 520-760-0479  
[bluegrassjamboree@gmail.com](mailto:bluegrassjamboree@gmail.com)  
[www.bearcanyonramblers.com](http://www.bearcanyonramblers.com)

### Cadillac Mountain

Corrine 520-235-3199

### Crystal Ridge

Brian Davies 520-297-4225  
[www.musicitucson.com](http://www.musicitucson.com)

### Dusty River Boys

Mary Ann McCracken 520-977-8113

### Flint Hill Special

Glen Wilbourn 928-634-8411

### Gold Rush

Jan or Mike 480-982-4938

### Headline Bluegrass Band

Bill Cox 480-208-5217  
[Www.myspace.com/headlinebluegrass](http://Www.myspace.com/headlinebluegrass)

### Los Hombres

Kenny Erickson 520-235-7473

### Peter Mc Laughlin

520-529-2992

### Salt Creek

Roland 520-803-0078  
Mike 520-378-4977

### Special Blend

Ray or Marilyn Sealing  
928-300-6810  
[Gypsylady@isp.com](mailto:Gypsylady@isp.com)

### The Bost Family Tradition

Jeff Bost 520-432-5053  
[JeffBost@earthlink.net](mailto:JeffBost@earthlink.net)

### The Busted Cowboy Band

Jim Koweek 520-455-5387

### Titan Valley Warheads

Ed Davenport 520-622-3699

### Way Out West

Emmy Creigh 520-323-0704

### Just a note on guitar repair.

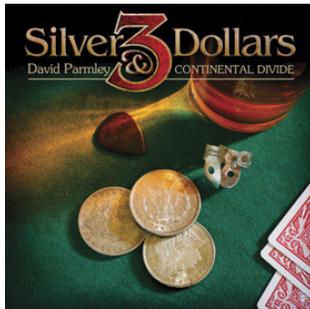
As I was searching for an answer to my Martin neck needing a set-up, Gary Knight of Catalina guitars was highly recommended to me. I had never heard of him, but met him, was delighted by his knowledge & personality and had him set-up the Martin. He did a great job, was not expensive and is a really nice guy. So.. just in case you are looking for someone to do your guitar repairs, visit Gary at Catalina guitars.  
[www.catalinaguitars.com](http://www.catalinaguitars.com)  
2100 N. Wilmot Suite #312  
886-0799  
Marilyn Ryan Hulbert



## David Parmley & Continental Divide THREE SILVER DOLLARS Pinecastle records

Marilyn Ryan Hulbert

We all saw David Parmley years ago in Tucson with the Bluegrass Cardinals - his voice was one of the best I had ever heard. Then we saw him with his band Continental Divide several times in the Old Pueblo - still one of the best voices in bluegrass music - this new release proves it again. Dale Perry, long time friend of David's plays banjo, finger-picks the guitar and sings. Ron Spears plays mandolin and also sings. Now...there's a combo delivering emotional vocals, & playing great licks. Ron Stewart is on fiddle and Kyle Perkins is playing bass. And... Rhonda Vincent is doing harmony on one tune - "Meadow on the Mountain". "3 Silver Dollars" is a Tom T. Hall song - good story - quick tempo, great fiddlin'. The next one you'll hear is "What You Can See from Your Knees" - a waltz tempo - a sad story and David knows how to sing from the heart - the harmonies are clear and beautiful. Next is "Refill of Your Love" -



written by David Coffey. Then "Meadow on the Mountain (where Mama used to Pray)" David and Rhonda sound great together - but then again - Rhonda sounds great all the time.

"Winsborough Cotton Mill Blues" is a song that David's Dad, Don Parmley sang many years ago when he was with the Hillmen. Good, clean banjo pickin' and sweet fiddle too! "He'd take the nickels off a dead

man's eye, to buy coca cola and an Eskimo pie!" Just a quote from the song.

Then... "She's Lying in the Cold, Cold Ground" written by Douglas Smith Jr. This one's an old-timey, modal type tune - lyin', cheatin' ends the poor girl in the cold ground. The banjo and fiddle sing to each other! I really like mountain - modal music.

"Ain't Gonna Let You Drag Me Down" - is a familiar style to David - an up-tempo tune - Ron Spears play a very nice mandolin break!

"Lily Still Blooms in the Dell" - written by Dee Gaskin - this is a gospel tune - a good melody

with an original way of wording gospel thoughts.

"Carolina Rain" - Ron Spears can write a hurtin' song so well. His voice has always been one of my favorites too.

"Anniversary of the Blues" - this tune is a 2 - step rhythm - so sad - David drives it. He makes you feel as if he is living every word.

"That's Just Me" - this is a cleverly written tune, veering away from traditional bluegrass chords, but when there's banjo, and lively tempo, and great bluegrass voices - it becomes bluegrass, as far as I am concerned.

The fingerpicked song- "God Reached Down" - is written by Ron Spears - the last tune on this very well produced album.

The harmonies on every song are really clear and beautiful - the music is perfect, the songs are all great choices.

But, then again, David Parmley and Continental Divide (no matter who may be in the band) has always been great, and show us again just how great! Simplicity and traditional sounds combined with attention to harmonies, fine voices and clean musical breaks filled with feeling, make this an album I play over and over.

## Overhear at Recent Jam Session

Dobro Player (former cop): So, what is it you do down in Benson?

Banjo Player: Well, I'm a goat farmer.

Dobro Player: Whoa, I wouldn't advertise that too loud.

Banjo Player: *Puzzled expression*: Is there something wrong with raising goats?

Dobro Player: Goats! I thought you said Dope!

## DBA Member Band Performances (cont)

amp and separate mixing board with one channel used to play cassette tapes, CD's or for a small mic to announce the numbers in a bingo game. It is not useful for playing live music.

The room we will be playing is perhaps three times the size of our music/living room (where we rehearsed last Sunday). It has a small raised, carpeted stage in one corner--just large enough for our purposes. The room is tiled floor and the acoustics are going to be difficult because sound will bounce off the walls, floor and ceiling. This will be even more difficult because of audience chatter. Not insurmountable, just somewhat difficult.

The purpose of this gig is to "welcome back" their regular winter visitors. I was told they will have a very large crowd that may spill outside to an adjacent patio (wx permitting). I was told this is a popular annual event because they offer free food and drinks for the event.

Anyway, we won't need a big sound system, so I believe the DBA system may be ideal for this gig. I will plan on providing the AT mic and phantom power to plug into the DBA system. The combination should more than meet our needs for the 16th." The Sound System is set!

**PRACTICE SESSION # 2 (Jan 11<sup>th</sup>)**—Prior to this practice Bill released the set list incorporating the changes from the first practice session. He also included notation as to the order of the breaks and splits as was determined earlier. Dress for the performance was discussed and blue jeans and white shirt (black hat optional) was the decision. Bill discussed the performance room situation and the acoustic problems that the band will face. After running through a song that needed extra practice, it was agreed to play though the set list in a simulated performance manner, i.e. standing and playing/singing to the mic. Dave and Bill had the sound system for the upcoming performance set up and the practice was recorded. (Following the practice, Bill did a quick edit of the recording and made cd's of the practice for everybody). The practice went well and things were getting tighter .

Here's the set list for the performance: It's only 5 days away.

**FIRST SET (45 minutes)**  
Foggy Mountain Breakdown-G- Bill Down Where The River Bends-G -Dave  
Whiskey Before Breakfast - D - Rich Take Your Shoes Off, Moses - G - Bill

Out Behind The Barn - D - Sam Wild Mtn.  
Flowers For Mary - D - Dave  
Steel Guitar Rag - G - Sam  
Nobody's Love - A - Bill  
Will You Miss Me - G - Dave  
Maiden's Prayer - A - Sam  
Walkin' The Dog - A - Dave

**SECOND SET (60 minutes)**  
Flint Hill Special - G - Bill  
Blue Ridge Cabin Home - A - Rich  
Wild Side Of Life - D - Dave  
Raggedy Ann - D - Sam  
Is It Too Late Now - A - Dave  
Ashokan Farewell - D - Sam  
We'll Meet Again, Sweetheart -A- Rich  
Sledd Ridin' - G - Bill  
Rocky Road Blues - D -



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## DBA Member Band Performances (cont)

Dave  
Faded Love – D – Sam  
Katy Daley – A – Bill  
Mother's Grave – G – Rich  
Down Yonder – G – Sam  
Far Side Banks of Jordan –  
A – Rich  
Rawhide – C – Rich

I think everyone was satisfied with the practice and is looking forward to the performance, I know I am! I'm hoping to make this an annual Gig for the DBA.

### The On-Stage Performance –(Jan.16<sup>th</sup>)-

The performance was scheduled from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. I arrived about 45 minutes early and this is what is found when I entered the performance room: The band sure didn't need to go outside to warm up, they could barely hear themselves much less bother any of the residents sitting near the stage. You can see the set list hanging on the mic, the band played a few warm up tunes.

When Dave arrived, the sound system was set up and the performance kickoff for real. Actually, with the exception of a very few people sitting very close to the band, the first few songs were totally ignored as the band couldn't compete with the background noise. On the fifth song of the set, the audience finally began to take notice and actually responded

with a nice applause. It was Fiddling Sam Brown singing "Out Behind the Barn" that broke the ice. Sam is a true Showman. From that point forward, the background noise began dropping as the audience interest kept improving.

I got a little concerned during the second set as a group of the residents started tearing down the tables and chairs and I'm thinking – why are they doing that – the performance isn't even near the end. Well, turns out, all they were doing was clearing a space so the residents would have a dance floor. Soon, fiddling Sam had them dancing to the sound of "Ragtime Annie". From that point on, every danceable song had people dancing.

The "Welcome Back" celebration being put on by the South Forty people included free BBQ sandwiches, beans, cold-slaw, chips, soft-drinks as well as beer and high octane margaritas. Everyone kept inviting us to help their selves. I did, and it was quite good. I did chat with the Activity Director a few times through out the performance - everything considered; she was pleased at how it was going. Practically all of the second set was played to an audience of residents that really appreciated the performance and wanted to

hear the music. I can testify that this band did an outstanding job of staging a true crowd pleasing Bluegrass Performance. Too bad they couldn't be heard during the initial songs, but they kept giving it their best though the tough times and were rewarded for their efforts.

### After Performance Discussion with the Activity Director-

Shortly after the performance, I met with the Activity Director. Her comment was: "the only negative I heard were from people wanting the talkers to clam up so they could hear the music". I said GREAT, we had hoped they would enjoy the music and this could be an annual event. Her response - I'm sure we will have you back – you know, we have a "Going Away" party the third Friday in March. She said she would be in touch. **Another Performance looks likely!**

**Band Leader Thanks the Band Members-** Bill Breen, the band leader, released the following e-mail to the band member later that day:

Howdy, all

Just a quick note before bedtime:

I just wanted to tell you all how much Lynn and I enjoyed

## DBA Member Band Performances (cont)

picking with you tonight (and at the rehearsals, too!).

This was a difficult venue because of the room and the fact that

everyone was talking. It was hard to hear and it makes it even more difficult if it seems the audience could care less whether we're

playing or not. But that description isn't entirely accurate...there were many folks who wanted to hear us and were annoyed at the others talking. That just goes



with the territory of such a performance. But we all stayed in there, smiling, picking and singing and they began to notice us!

Sam caught their ear with his rendition of Little Jimmy Dickens' "Out Behind the Barn" as well as

some of his well known fiddle tunes. Gradually, they began to listen and enjoy our music and even started dancing! THEN it became fun, didn't it! I noticed they

really listened to the words to "Mother's Grave" when Rich performed, and really enjoyed dancing to Dave's "Rocky Road Blues".

Anyway, I just wanted to say that everyone in the group performed exceedingly well under the difficult circumstances (very professionally done!) and I thank you for all your effort, practice and patience. You did the DBA proud!"

Signed by: BILL BREEN

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

around to assess things. There was a performance band playing in the main restaurant, an "all-jam" playing to a packed house in the banquet room, there was a band playing on the front porch of the restaurant, another band playing on the gazebo, and a band playing by the Dakota Cafe. It was a memorable experience, with jammers periodically interrupted by the whistle of the passing train and the gunshots of the acting troupe next door. Sam Brown e-mailed me later; "I'd never seen anything like PINNACLE PEAK before in my life, and you know that I am not very young !!!" At 80 years old, that's saying a lot!

- The most exciting event was the Cherryholmes concerts on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Playing to a packed house, America's #1 bluegrass family wowed the crowd with unmatched instrumentation, vocals, and stage presence. In one afternoon/night we managed to offer an impressive musical experience to the community, solidify a positive relationship with the Saddlebrook Theater Guild for future performances, encourage hundreds of new folks to join the DBA, and raised an astonishing amount of money – so much so that it more than made up for our budget deficit from last year. The only reason these good things happened was because Bonnie Lohman negotiated with the band & the Guild, and Bill Trap, Rich Errico, and Ted put sweat, genius, and countless hours into producing and promoting the musical event of the year. We owe them a deep debt of gratitude.
- That same night we introduced a new DBA tradition. A couple months prior, Bonnie and I were talking about ways to recognize the efforts of our many volunteers. Bonnie, who is one of my favorite people on earth, struck gold – "Let's have an annual volunteer-of-the-year award." She consulted with Marilyn Hulbert, who thought up the name – "**The Turquoise Award.**" Marilyn and her husband Steve plunged into the project with gusto. Using a highly-grained slice of wood from the mid-section of a mesquite tree, they fashioned a beautiful plaque, and attached a striking turquoise stone from Kingman. It was my deep

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

pleasure to present this first award to Mike and Betty Headrick at the Cherryholmes concert. It was our small way of recognizing 10 years of incredible effort on Mike's part in organizing our annual festivals. Plus, Mike is just so unflappable. I loved pulling off such a major surprise and seeing his and Betty's reaction in front of an audience of over 400 people.

- The DBA Spring Campout! Ike once again organized a weekend **campout in Tombstone on March 28-29<sup>th</sup>**! This is always a fun event – playing in the ole time bars of the “Town that was too tough to die!” and jamming with players from all over the Southwest.
- Mike Headrick put together a group of DBA players for the March 28<sup>th</sup> “Cienega Watershed Celebration”.
- Rudy Mamula put together a group of pickers to play at InBalance Ranch, which is a treatment facility for boys in Sierra Vista.

So, here's some things to be looking forward to in the next few months.

- Our **Beginners Workshop** has been totally revamped! We are now meeting every Monday night from 6:30-8:30pm in the choir room at Christ Community Church, 7801 E. Kenyon Dr. There is a different instructor each month and we've just purchased 14 new songbooks

for instruction. So, if you've been longing to learn a new instrument in a safe, “newbie-friendly” environment – get over to our **Beginner's Workshop**!

- Instrument Clinics!** As I mentioned, “The Professor” - Marshall Vest has put together an exciting series of **instrument clinics** at the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Market that are free to the public. These will be for beginners-to-intermediates. The management of 17<sup>th</sup> Street Market is covering all the expenses and has committed to advertising the clinics throughout the community. The first will be a **banjo clinic** led by Titan Valley Warhead's **Andy McCune** on **April 18<sup>th</sup>** from 2-4pm. Then, on Saturday, **May 16<sup>th</sup>** from 2-4pm, the incomparable **Mike Purdy** will be doing a **mandolin clinic**. Then, on Saturday, **June 20<sup>th</sup>**, from 2-4pm, Crystal Ridge's **Tom Carpenter** will be doing a **flat-picking guitar** clinic. In July we're hoping to set up a bass clinic. Spread the word.

- The Professor also arranged for the “**17<sup>th</sup> Street Market Jam**” on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 4-6pm. This is an intermediate-to-advanced

bluegrass jam that will definitely hone your skills. So get there, buckle up, and hang on! Plus, afterwards you can do your dinner shopping.

- Join us for “**The Wickenburg Road Trip**” on Saturday, **May 2<sup>nd</sup>**. This is a friendship event being jointly organized by the Arizona Bluegrass Association and the Desert Bluegrass Organization (see the announcement in this newsletter for more details)
- “**Pickn' at the Peak Extrava-jamsa**” is going to be happening **every third Thursday** of the month, **6-9pm**. Performing and jamming will be happening in the restaurant and all over Trail Dust Town. Every picker and grinner is invited. You do not want to miss this experience, so mark your calendars!
- Make sure you get over to Charlie's “**Vero Amore Jam**” the **first Thursday** of each month (**April 2 and May 7**) from 6-8 pm. And the “**Espresso Drini Jam**” on the **third Sunday** of each month (**April 19 and May 17**).

Annual membership renewal has come around once again. I'm telling you – the DBA is on the move towards some very exciting things. So plunk down your \$15 and be a part of all the excitement.

“Doc” Simpson

# BENSON'S 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BLUEGRASS IN THE PARK

## APRIL 24, 25, & 26, 2009

### ON THE GRASS AT LIONS PARK IN HISTORIC BENSON ARIZONA



GOLDWING EXPRESS ~ Branson



THE BOST FAMILY ~ AZ



LOUISIANA GRASS ~ Louisiana



PALMER DIVIDE ~ Colorado



JAM PAC N GRASS NEIGHBORHOOD BAND ~ Phoenix



HEADLINE BLUEGRASS ~ AZ

#### ALSO FEATURING

TRUSTING HEART ~ Arizona ~ And DORIAN WELLS ~ U OfA Tucson

### Presented by the Benson / San Pedro Valley Chamber of Commerce

#### PLUS

GUEST BANDS ~ WORKSHOPS ~ JAM SESSIONS ~ CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ~ VENDORS

Three full days of great family entertainment

HOURS Friday 12PM-5PM, SAT-SUN 9AM-5PM

ADMISSION - Adults - Friday \$8.00 ~ Saturday & Sunday - \$12.00 per day ~ Three day pass - \$25.00

AGES 6 to 12 ~ 1/2 price

Kids 6 and under FREE with an adult

Camping "FREE" with 3 day ticket or \$5.00 a day

No camping at Lions Park before Wednesday but many RV parks near by  
Pets permitted only in camping area and "must be on a leash"

BRING LAWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS

TICKETS SOLD ONLINE AT BENSON CHAMBER WEB SITE STARTING MARCH 7TH

On the web at - [www.bluegrassfestival.biz](http://www.bluegrassfestival.biz)

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

For information contact The Benson / San Pedro Valley Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 2255, Benson, AZ 85602 - (520) 586-2842





**Saturday May 30, 8:00pm –**

**Grammy Winner  
LAURIE LEWIS & TOM ROZUM**  
with special guest  
**PETER McLAUGHLIN**

**Old Town Artisans - 201 N. Court    downtown**  
**\$20 advance                      \$23 door**

**“One of the top female artists of the last 30 years.” – Dan Hays, IBMA**

For more than thirty years California fiddler, singer and songwriter Laurie Lewis has forged new ground in bluegrass, folk and country. The IBMA (International Bluegrass Music Association) twice named her Female Vocalist of the Year. Sam Bush said, “She’s one of the few female singers who really knows the nuances of the Ralph Stanley vocal style.” Ace mandolinist-singer Tom Rozum has performed with Laurie since 1986. Together they bring an evening of virtuosity and timeless music.

DBA members receive a \$2 discount

## ***Classified Ads***

TACOMA ACOUSTIC GUITAR with L. R. Baggs pickup. Western Cedar top, Mahogany back and sides, satin finish, Rosewood fingerboard, chrome tuners, compensated saddle. Effortless action, beautiful condition, great sound acoustic or amplified. Great gig guitar - lightweight with big sound. Hard shell Case. Original owner. \$900.

Marilyn Ryan Hulbert  
520-760-0479 e-mail - bluegrass jamboree@gmail.com

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Dear music friends,  
I'm selling my 1983 Martin D-18, Limited Edition Series, signed by C.F. Martin II and C.F. Martin III. I consider the guitar in good condition, with some finish wear noted after over 25 years of playing. I hand-picked this guitar from three in the series back when it was a newly minted instrument. It is the guitar I used on my Wanderlust recording. As with all D-18s, it has Mahogany back and sides. It has a Spruce top and Ebony fingerboard and bridge. It is tonally rich and complex. If interested, please contact Peter McLaughlin at 520-292-5992, or e-mail mcpeter@aol.com. Price is \$1850.00 or best offer.

Chris Brashear  
413-259-1890  
www.chrisbrashear.net



**Afriats: Understanding Forced Interpersonal Interactions.**  
A new book by **Richard Baker**. Google "Afriats" to inspect the book. Available online at Barnes and Noble or Amazon.com.



Cello for sale. Student cello with bow and soft cover  
520-296-1231

## Wickenburg Road Trip

### ABA & DBA Friendship Roadtrip!

Join us for “**The Wickenburg Road Trip**” on **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**. This is a friendship event being jointly organized by the Arizona Bluegrass Association and the Desert Bluegrass Organization. Dennis & Cathy Vance at *The Mandolin Store* will be hosting a free barbecue. Adam McIntosh is being brought in from Ohio to conduct separate workshops on guitar, mandolin and banjo (he is a master of all three). Adam is a former member of the *Dry Branch Fire Squad* and currently with the famed *Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers*. A \$10 donation is asked of workshop participants to help defray some of the costs.

Saturday morning (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) a bunch of us will be meeting to form a caravan at the *Cracker Barrel* restaurant in Tucson, off of I-10 & Cortaro Rd. (Exit #246). We’re leaving **8:30 am** sharp! We’ll make our way to Coffinger Park in Wickenburg. It is located off Tegner St (US93) at Swilling Rd. The link to the facility is: <http://www.ci.wickenburg.az.us/index.asp?NID=526>.

For those who would like to camp, you can go up the night before and stay over the next night at the Hospitality RV Park, 51801 N. Grande Ave (US 60) Wickenburg. The discounted rates are:

- 50 Amp 28.00/night that

includes tax

- 30Amp 26.00/ night including tax
- Electric only 20.00/night.
- Water and Electric 26.00/ night.

Reservations for the RV park need to be made a minimum of 1 week prior. Call Jan and mention *Bluegrass* for the discounted rates. (928) 684-2519.

This promises to be a terrific time. RSVP is not required. But if you intend to go, please call Doc Simpson at 722-1387 or e-mail him at [shrinkdoctor@earthlink.net](mailto:shrinkdoctor@earthlink.net) to let him know. We want to give The Mandolin Store a rough count of how many to expect.

### Hosted by the Desert Bluegrass Association and The 17th Street Market

**What:** Acoustic jam for intermediate to advanced pickers focused on traditional bluegrass tunes. Bring your own instrument or use one from The 17<sup>th</sup> Street Market Music store.

**Who should attend:** Bluegrass aficionados looking for the opportunity to play in a group setting. Acoustic only, please.

**When:** **Fourth Wednesday of every month, from 4-6 PM.** Do your grocery shopping afterwards!

**Where:** The 17th Street Market, 840 E. 17th Street, Tucson, is located in the Armory Park Artist Warehouse District.

**Directions:** From Broadway go south on Euclid, make your first right turn onto 18th Street, at the stop sign make a right, then another right onto 17th Street. The market is at 810 East 17th Street on the right.

From I 10 get off at 22nd street, go east, make a left onto 4th Avenue, over railroad tracks into the Armory Park Warehouse District, the market is on the right.

**More Information:** Marshall @ 907-9698

### The 17th Street Market and the Desert Bluegrass Association invite you to the first in a series of free Bluegrass Clinics the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month starting with a Banjo Clinic on Saturday, April 18, from 2-4 PM

We have invited several experienced instructors to participate in this series which will also include clinics on Mandolin, Fiddle, Bass, Dobro and Guitar.

Popular banjoist Andy McCune will lead the banjo clinic on April 18, from 2-4. Andy who regularly plays with the “Titan Valley Warheads” has been teaching banjo for over 30 years.

The clinic will be interactive and tablature examples will be provided. Possible items to be covered (depending on the mix of attendees) include:

An overview of the learning process.

What to expect from the banjo

Practice and memorization tips

Licks to add sparkle to your playing

Making the transition to improvising

Playing in C and D out of G tuning

Beginning and intermediate players are welcome. Bring your banjo or borrow one of ours!

## Sedona Bluegrass Residency and Festival 2009

The Red Rocks of Sedona are host to the third Sedona Bluegrass April 29 thru the May 3 Festival.

The Festival features Grammy Award winning artists Tim O'Brien headlining the Sunday Festival. The resident ensemble includes bassist Todd Phillips, guitarist David Grier, and mandolinist Matt Flinner.

The residency schedule is:

### Wednesday, April 29 ~ 7-8pm

Informal Concert Performance with  
Phillips-Grier-Flinner Trio  
Sedona Public Library  
admission: two cans of food

### Thursday, April 30 ~ 6-9pm\*

Bluegrass BBQ with PGF Trio  
Private Oak Creek Home  
admission: \$65/person or \$110/couple  
reservations required, rsvp 928.204.2415

### Friday, May 1 ~ 5-8pm

Sedona Gallery Association  
*First Friday Artwalk*  
Burnett Family Bluegrass Band  
admission: free

### Saturday, May 2 ~ time TBD\*

Workshops @ NAU for:  
Guitar with David Grier  
Bass with Todd Phillips  
Fiddle/mandolin with Matt Flinner  
admission: \$25/person  
reservations required, rsvp 928.204.2415

### Saturday, May 2 ~ 6-9pm\*

Fret, Fun and Fundraiser BBQ  
Main Street Catering  
Private Flagstaff home  
admission: \$65 or \$100/couple  
reservations required, rsvp 928.204.2415

\* with Special Event *advance purchase*

\$10 can be applied, only by phone, toward purchase of tickets to the

## Sedona Bluegrass Festival 2009

Welcoming the return of  
**Tim O'Brien**  
and Guest Bands  
**Sunday, May 3**

Los Abrigados Resort - Creekside  
Doors open at 11:30am



<p>Phillips-Grier-Flinner 3:30-4:45</p>	<p>Burnett Family Bluegrass 1:45-3:15</p>	<p>Crystal Ridge Bluegrass 12:00-1:15pm</p>

### TICKETS:

\$40/person, youth tickets by phone only. Outlets include:  
Arizona Music Pro and Cedar Music, **Flagstaff** ~ Bhasas' **Sedona** and Rycus' **Corners-VOC**  
Think For Ink, **Prescott** ~ Planet Music & Video, **Cottonwood**.

Phone: 928.204.2415

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

FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND • JUNE 19, 20, 21, 2009

# HUCK FINN JUBILEE

*Country & Bluegrass*

CAMP in a meadow • EAT lots of vittles • SHOP a crafts village • RIDE in a hot air balloon • ENJOY 3 days of music

*Run Away with Huck Finn!*

**Mark Twain Live**

**Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder**

**The Grascals**

**Don Edwards**

**Dailey & Vincent**

**Lonesome River Band**

**Claire Lynch Band**

**Wayne Taylor & Appaloosa**

**Danny Paisley & Southern Grass**

**Sawmill Road**

**Julie Wingfield**

**Nathan McEuen & Scott Gates**

**Bon Family Cloggers**

**Line Dancing with KC Douglas**

**Chapel with Wayne Rice**

**(more to come)**



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Route 66 Car Show • Russell Bros. Circus

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