DESERT BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

GRASS CLIPPINGS

Volume 24 Issue 2 Aug/Sep 2018

JOHN DAVID RECEIVES TURQUOISE AWARD

By Dave Polston

Being the previous recipient of the Desert Bluegrass Association, I was honored to present John David this year's award at the Marana Bluegrass festival.

John grew up in upstate New York and served a hitch in the Navy after high school. He then attended Utica College where he graduated with a BA and Syracuse University, graduating with a BS in electrical engineering. John had a 42-year career in the defense industry, 26 years of which were spent with Texas Instruments. In 1998 Raytheon purchased the Texas Instruments Defense Systems and Electronic Group and 1999 found John and his wife Karen being transferred here to Tucson from Dallas. Karen came into John's life in 1979, when they met at Club Med in the French West Indies. They tied the knot the following year. They chose not to have children which has resulted in 38 happily married years!!!

John joined the DBA in 2003 and attended the workshops as much as his work schedule would allow. He started playing guitar in 1963 while serving our country in the Navy. Maybelle Carter's style of Wildwood Flower was the first song he learned.

After retiring in 2011, John became more involved with the association. Since then John has served as the newsletter editor since 2012, served 4 terms as President (2013-2017), and is a current board trustee. Also, as a member of the Marana Bluegrass Festival Committee, he is the webmaster for the festival website.

This award is given to an individual that goes above and beyond the norm to make our association great. John has truly done that! Congratulations!

OFFICERS

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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

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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/

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www.fiddlehangout.com

Banjo:
www.banjohangout.org

Bass:
www.bluegrassbassplace.com

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

Dobro:
www.reso-nation.org
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GREETINGS FELLOW BLUEGRASS LOVERS

By Dave Polston

Greetings all you pickers! I hope you survived the blistering heat (111 today as I write this). During those hot afternoons I hope you were working on all your rhythms, licks and leads. Our workshops will start up again September 10th. I am inviting all who love bluegrass to attend the opening night, especially more experienced players. As our workshops grow I am needing your assistance to help those pickers new to the bluegrass experience. The first night will be orientation. We are adding an intermediate program and explanation of the syllabus for the two groups will be given.

The main objective of the workshop is to inform you on how to jam, that's one of the things that bluegrass is known for. While attending camp bluegrass and jamming I saw how important our program is, most of the people could not lead their song, it was very chaotic. Being me, I had to step in and keep the train from derailing several times.

We have many jams during each month and these workshops help you step up to participate in them. By having these jams we promote the music we love but also through the tips raised, we are able to send kids that come to workshop go to camp. We sent two this year and they had a blast! They learned a lot about playing and singing but also learned some history about the pioneers of bluegrass. If you have children or grandchildren, get them a starter instrument and bring them to workshop, it's a great way to bond.

More information about the workshops can be found on our website.

Continued on Page 4

GREETINGS FELLOW BLUEGRASS LOVERS
(Continued)

Another reason to invite all who belong to the association is to announce some of the activities and events that will be happening this next year. This will be a good opportunity to get to know what is going on and how you can help in making them successful.

Stay cool and pick on!

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT FOR THE DBA
By Jeff Collins

Summer is my time to get out of the heat and travel in my RV. Not only do I love playing music, I love to fly fish. We spent a couple weeks near Durango, an acoustic music paradise. Durango itself was having major issues with a huge fire just north of town; they even closed down its biggest tourist attraction, the Train! Smoke filled the town every morning, luckily, we stay a little west of town in a smaller town called Bayfield. Our RV site was right on the Los Pinos River. I got to fish and caught some great trout. Also lucked out that our neighbor there was a fly fisherman and guitar player. We did some picking together and one night had a group of Harley bikers near us. I played Bluegrass and my neighbor played 60's type music. The Harley crowd liked the music but wanted something else. I played Bad Moon Rising, a Credence song which they held up their lit cigarette lighters at the end. Sometimes you need to stray from Bluegrass.

We are about to close out negotiations with Marana for our 2019 Bluegrass Festival. Should be printing flyers sometime in September.

To close, I'd like to mention the passing of our good friend and Bluegrass bass player, Wayne Babb. Wayne was a good friend and great musician. I had the privilege to fly fish with him over the past few years and his passing was a total surprise to me. I wish Shawn and his family well; they always put in an extra effort at all of Marana Festivals. I hope Shawn will continue to stay in touch and be a part of our Festival.

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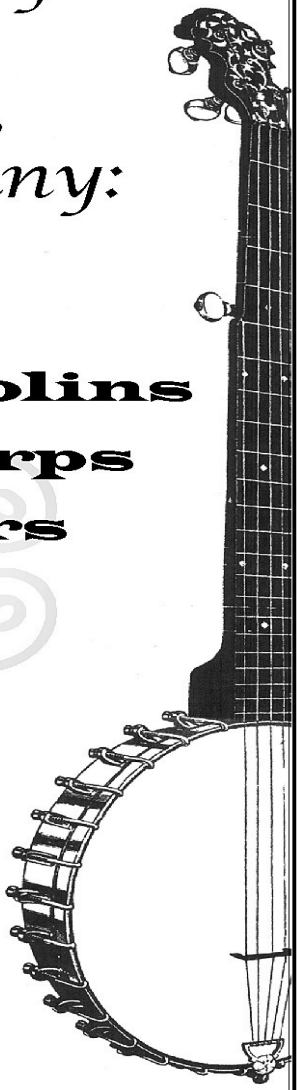

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Reid Griffin 520-349-4321
http://www.maranafestival.com/old-pueblo-bluegrass.html

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520-247-1027

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www.scatteredgrass.com
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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.

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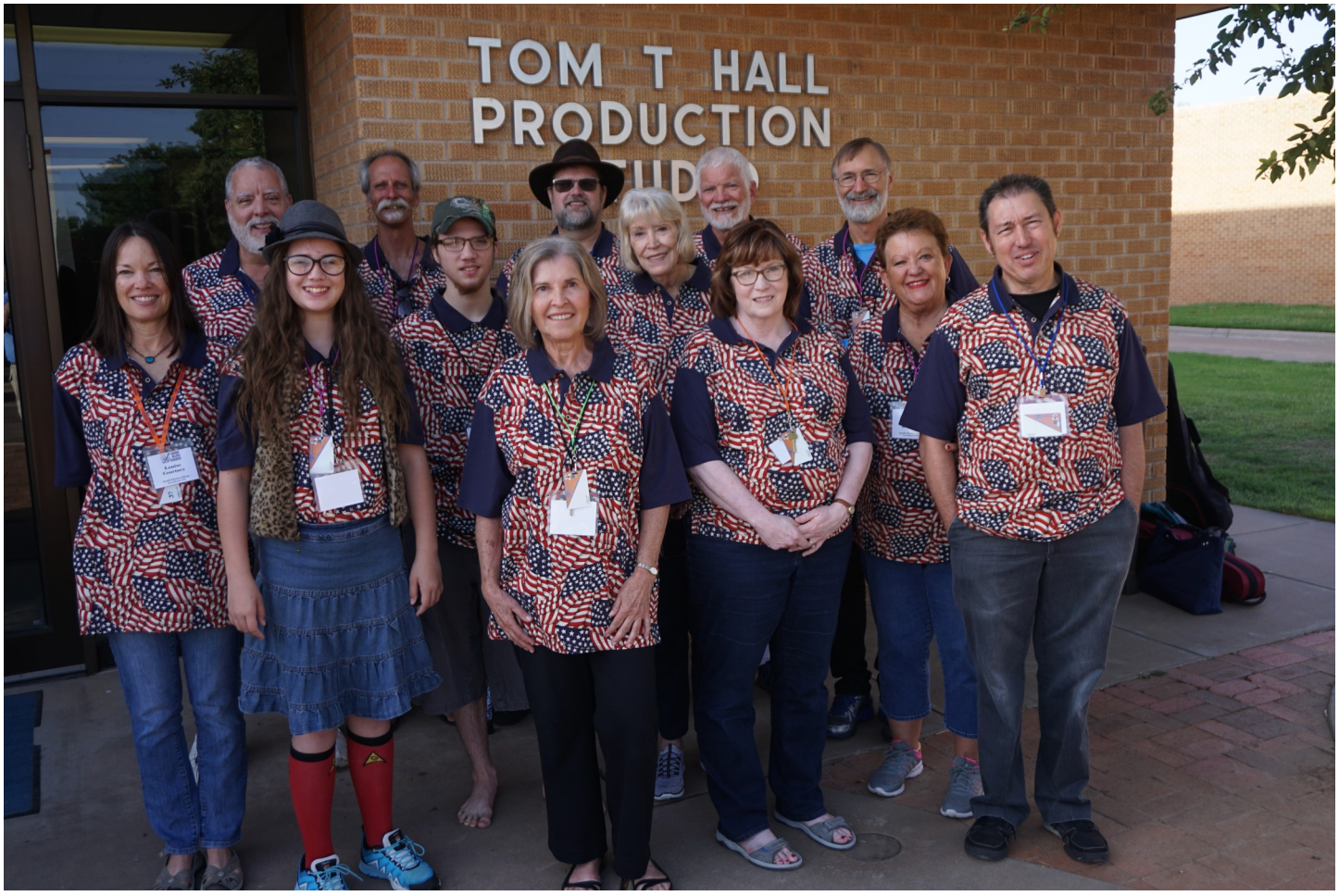

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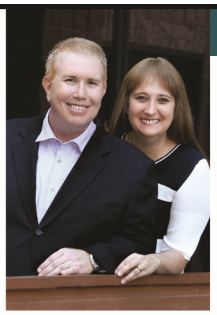
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SUMMER JAMS

Pinnacle Peak Jam

SUMMER JAMS

(Continued)

Pinnacle Peak Jam

DBA Events
AUGUST 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	6	7	8	9	10	11 **JAM** **11:30pm - 1:30 pm** **VA Hospital** Bldg 60 6th Ave & Ajo
12	13 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	14	15	16	17	18
19 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	20	21	22	23 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Pinnacle Peak Court Yard** 6541 E. Tanque Verde Rd.	24	25
26 **JAM** **4:00 pm - 6:00 pm** **Thirsty's Neighborhood Grill** 2422 N. Pantano	27	28	29	30 **JAM** **5:00 pm - 6:30 pm** **Sierra del Sol Senior Living (Dining Room)** 8151 E. Speedway	31	

DBA Events
SEPTEMBER 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	3	4	5	6	7	8 **JAM** **11:30pm - 1:30 pm** **VA Hospital** Bldg 60 6th Ave & Ajo
9	10 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	11 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	12	13	14	15
16 **JAM** **7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** **Udall Park Ramada** 7200 E. Tanque Verde Road	17 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church**	18 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	19	20 **JAM** **7:00pm - 9:00pm** **Pinnacle Peak Court Yard** 6541 E. Tanque Verde Rd.	21	22
23 **JAM** **4:00 pm - 6:00 pm** **Thirsty's Neighborhood Grill** 2422 N. Pantano	24 **WORKSHOP** **(EAST SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Christ Community Church** 7801 E Kenyon Dr	25 **WORKSHOP** **(NW SIDE)** **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm** **Marana Community Center** 13251 N Lon Adams Rd., Marana	26 **Newsletter Inputs Due**	27 **JAM** **5:00 pm - 6:30 pm** **Sierra del Sol Senior Living (Dining Room)** 8151 E. Speedway	28	29
30						

SUMMER JAMS

(Continued)

Pinnacle Peak Jam

SUMMER JAMS

(Continued)

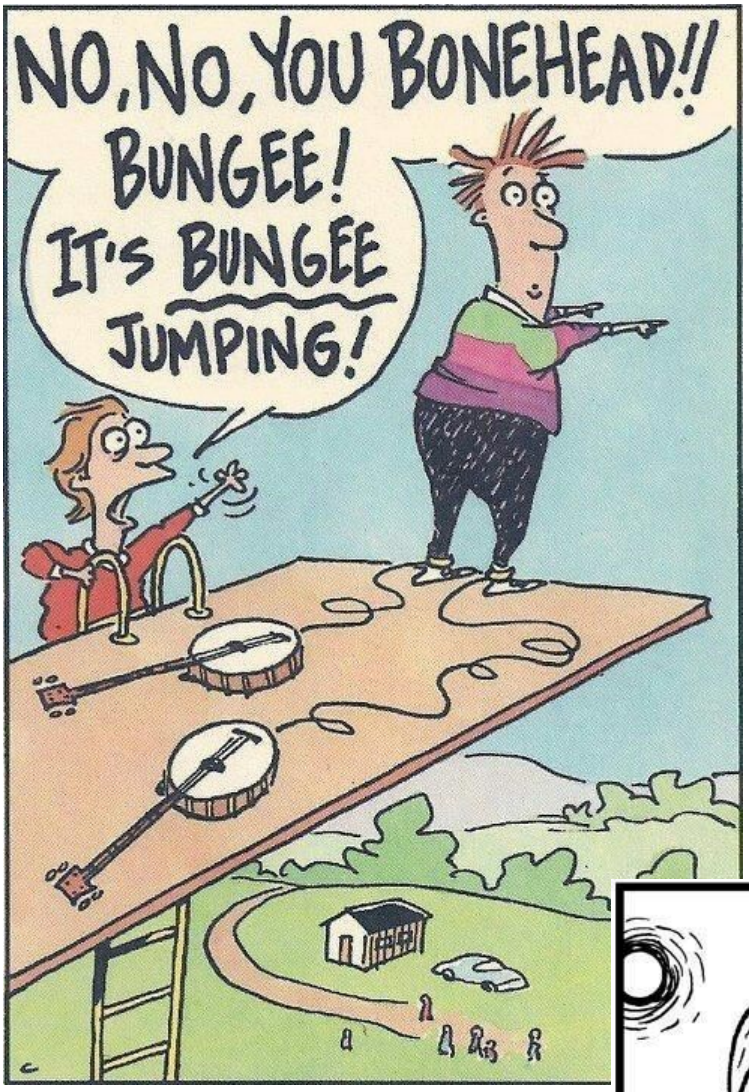
Pinnacle Peak Jam

SUMMER JAMS

(Continued)

Sierra del Sol Jam

VA Jam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JAMS & OPEN MICS

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

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Southwest Community Center
Cardinal Ave, Tucson, AZ
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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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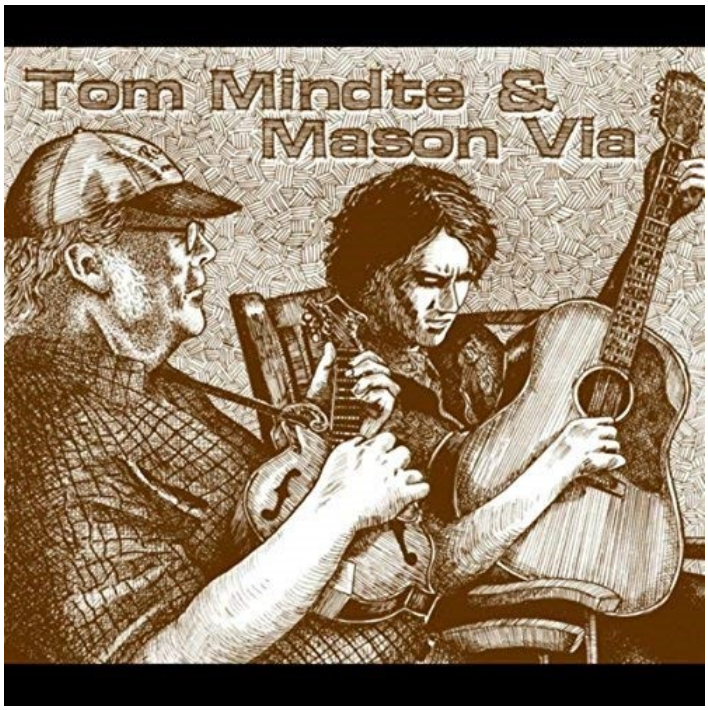
TOM MINDTE & MASON VIA

Patuxant Music 2018

Review by: Marilyn Ryan Hulbert

This is an awesome album!

Tom Mindte, singer and mandolin player took some lessons from Frank Wakefield and tells us that Frank's playing is difficult and elegant, and that Frank knows every song and note of Bill Monroe's repertoire. We, that get's my attention right away! With a masters of science and electrical engineering, Tom is in charge of his company Patuxant Music, plays several instruments, has experience with a variety of musical genres and plays and sings bluegrass just like we like it!!!



Trading lead and harmony vocals with Tom and playing the guitar is Mason Via. Via brings his Southern heritage and youthful creativity. "Appalachian funky folk, soulful acoustic, rhythm and bluegrass and groovy Americana" are how his music has been described.

His country and bluegrass

Continued on Page 21

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TOM MINDTE & MASON VIA
(Continued)

roots are really what you hear, though, on this album. His Father, David Via, won the Merle Fest song writer's contest three times. The apple did not fall far from the tree. Mason is a multi-instrumentalist and a songwriter too, performing for the last five years at concert venues and festivals. Not all of his music is traditional sounding folk or bluegrass, but this album is very old-timey and definitely bluegrass and it's roots.

Ben Somerville is playing bass. Bob Benzing plays banjo on the first cut "Heed this Advice" written by Mason Via.

Brennan Ernst is playing piano on "I'm Gonna Be a Wheel Someday." Victor Furtado plays old time banjo and Nate Leath plays fiddle on "Rockingham Cindy," and Donnie "Dobro" Scott plays on "Run and Hide."

Harmonies grabbed my immediate attention, and when the 2nd song, one of my all-time favorites "Little Moses" rang out of my CD player, I was happily captured!

These are the songs you will hear.

"Heed This Advice" - Mason Via - Don't let the bad guys get you!
"Little Moses" - A. P. Carter
"The Girl I Love Don't Pay Me No Mind" - Arthur Leroy Smith - this is the real stuff!
It just keeps getting better - " 'Twas Midnight on the Stormy Deep" - public domain. Harmony!!! Yes!!

Continued on Page 22

TOM MINDTE & MASON VIA
(Continued)

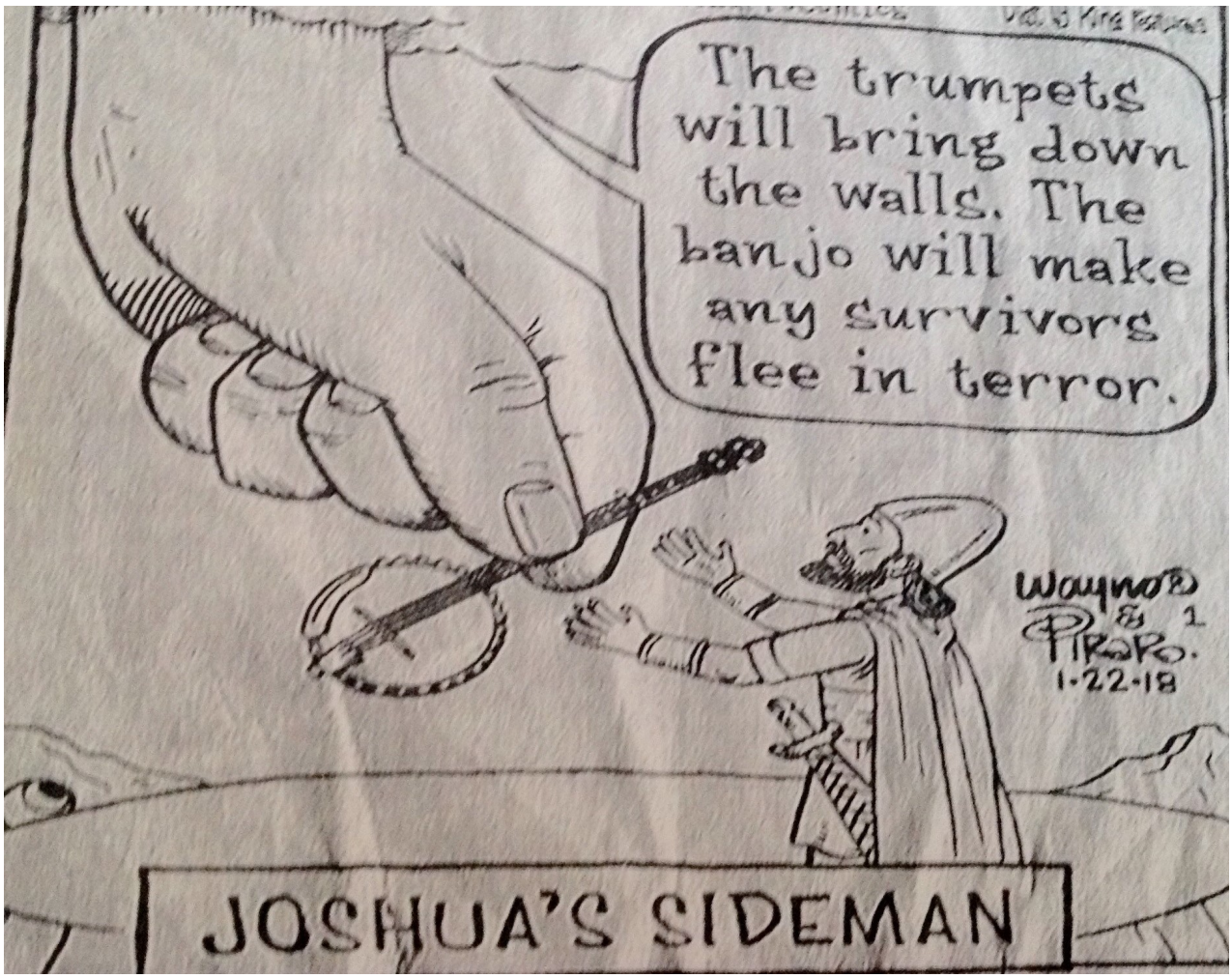
"Looking For The Stone" - Ralph Stanley - tearing down the kingdom of this world!!!
"The Drunken Driver" - a Lynn Davis song. I love the stories with a moral! True old-time music....
"Love in My Heart" - Mason Via - shows off Mason's big voice. He says he has love bursting from the seams. I believe it!
"I'm Gonna Be a Wheel Someday" - up-tempo country tune with some great piano.
"Best Female Actress" - Charlie Moore and Red Smiley. I love this so much!! Tear jerking, honky - tonkin' tune with lots of humor.
"Run and Hide" - Wayne Erbsen wrote this one. Troubles can come. This is the answer.
"Rockingham Cindy" - public domain. Get Along Cindy with frailing banjo!
"I Am the Man, Thomas" - Larry Sparks and Ralph Stanley. Soulful and beautifully done.

I so very much like everything about this album!! Just the right combo of familiar and un-familiar. Just the right amount of instruments behind the singers.

You know, I get a pile of wonderful bluegrass to play and review. This was my choice this time.

Pick some tunes and have a cool Summer,

Marilyn



ASSOCIATIONS

Arizona Bluegrass Association
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Peoria, Az 85345
Leslie Rhodes President
602-565-3285
leslie@arizonabluegrass.com
www.arizonabluegrass.com

International Bluegrass Music Association
2 Music Circle South, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37203
615-256-3222
Toll Free: 1-888-438-4262
http://www.ibma.org

International Bluegrass Music Museum
Museum Entrance: 117 Daviess Street
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270-926-7891
888-MY BANJO (toll-free)

So. Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association
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Tucson, AZ 85745
Info: Wilbur 520-743-7086

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music
Info: 520-408-6181
www.tftm.org

Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association
PO Box 26531
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www.tkma.org

Tucson Old Time Music Circle
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WELCOME TO OUR NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

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MEMBER OF THE DESERT BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

WWW.DesertBluegrass.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

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.

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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Do you wish to be included in the Membership Directory? (check one) Yes☐ No☐

What instruments do you play? ☐Banjo ☐Bass ☐Fiddle ☐Guitar
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