



# DESERT BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter



## Grass Clippings

Volume 29 Issue 3

August 2023 — September 2023

### Message from the President

*By Karen Dismachek, DBA President*

**Hi bluegrass lovers!** I hope you have been finding some cool places to jam. Boy it's been hot! Fall is on the way though, and we will be resuming our workshops in September. More details on that below.

#### **Camp Bluegrass**

Approximately a dozen or so of us just got back from Camp Bluegrass. We had such a great time socializing with other bluegrass lovers and some world-class musicians in a very nice facility. All music all the time! What's not to love! Read more about our experiences in Dave's article on page 12.



#### **Musical Instrument Museum Road Trip**

My band ("The Notorious No-Gig Girl Band," one of two DBA spin-off bands that I am in) went on a road trip in June to the MIM in Phoenix. What an amazing place! Read about it in Suzette's "Fiddler's Corner" column on page 9.

#### **Patagonia Lake DBA Campout**

It will be here before you know it! For more details on that fun DBA activity, read Dale's article on page 8.

#### **Workshops**

One of the things I love about bluegrass music is that it's a genre of music that has a long tradition of participation. You didn't just listen, you played and sang along. The basic structure of bluegrass is not extremely complex, and if you are somewhat familiar with that basic structure, you can be playing along in a jam in a relatively short period of time. Now having said that, it doesn't mean that bluegrass music is simple; it can be as complex as you want it to be depending on your style and your level of skill.

*President's Letter continued on page 3*

➔ **Also in this issue:** New Summer Jam, 6. Welcome New Members, 7. DBA Campout at Patagonia Lake, 8. Fiddler's Corner, 9. Camp Bluegrass, 12. Calendar, 16. Classifieds, 18. Instructors and Bands, 19. Great Websites, 20. Other Jams & Associations, 21.

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***President's Letter, continued from page 1***

I had classes with Nate Lee (fiddler) at Camp Bluegrass, and one of the things he said that stuck with me was something he said to another student. This student played a very simple melody from a popular song and asked, "How can I make this very simple, basically boring melody more interesting?" Nate said, "You are playing it like it is boring." Nate then proceeded to play those few notes, putting his heart into it with lots of expression. It's not just about the notes! That's why we encourage players of any level to go ahead and try breaks at our workshops: wrong notes are OK! (There are no wrong-note police!)


Our workshops are currently scheduled to resume on September 11 at St. Frances in the Foothills at 6:30 PM. (Keep an eye on the DBA calendar to make sure nothing changes.) The workshops cater to three levels of skill: Beginners, Intermediate, and Advanced. Our goal in teaching what we do in the workshops is to have a person who is new to bluegrass be able to jam with others in a relatively short period of time. People also make a lot of musical friends at these workshops which allows them to network and put their own jam groups together. There is nothing better than jamming with your peeps!

A good place to go for online bluegrass instruction and reference is our own Dave Polston's YouTube channel where he goes over some of the skills listed in the following pages:

See <https://www.youtube.com/@MrDavePolston>

See the next page for descriptions of the levels.

***President's Letter continued on page 4***



**Dan Levenson**  
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Play Nice!

### *President's Letter, continued from page 3*

**Beginners:** “Beginner” refers to beginners at playing bluegrass music. Which means you could be a beginner on your instrument and new at bluegrass, or you could have been playing your instrument for a while in other genres but you are new to the bluegrass genre. We do not teach you how to play your instrument. (Of course, we'll answer any questions we can, but we cannot spend a lot of individual time with each student. A one-on-one teacher is best for that.)

#### **What we teach in Beginners:**

- Basic history of bluegrass music
- The role each instrument plays in bluegrass arrangements
- The Nashville Numbering System
- Basic licks and fills
- Finding the vocal melody notes on your instrument
- How to lead a song in a jam
- Singing harmony notes
- Basic bluegrass chord progressions

We have a curriculum of 4 five-week sessions, with each session focusing on a certain list of basic bluegrass songs where we apply some of the skills listed above. **Note:** It's not like a college semester, however; you can join at any time and move up to intermediates at any time if it is appropriate for you.

**Intermediates:** In Intermediates our goal is to get you comfortable with jamming, leading songs, and jam etiquette. This class is arranged in a jam circle setting, and the songs are played at a moderate tempo and then picked up a bit as the workshop sessions continue.

#### **Skills you should have in order to participate at the intermediate level:**

- Have vocal melodies down on your instrument for two songs
- Can play melody on at least one fiddle/banjo instrumental tune at moderate speed (two tunes are even better)
- Can lead one or more songs in a jam circle
- Can play strong rhythm and add some fills

#### **What you will learn in intermediates:**

- How to increase your skill with vocal melodies on your instrument and how to enhance the melody when you have a second break in a song
- How to practice fiddle/banjo tunes to increase your repertoire and song speed
- How to create intros/kick-offs and endings for your songs
- How to adapt your song arrangement to the present jam group
- All the finer points of jam etiquette (dynamics, when to do fills, how to organize instruments, etc.)
- How to listen, how to be in sync with the groove.

Now a very important thing with jamming is to make sure you have **fun!** It's not rocket science, it's music and hanging with your friends! So, no matter where your skill level is, make sure it is always fun, and stress-free! Bluegrass players in my experience have always been welcoming, friendly, and non-judgmental, and we do our best to make our workshops that way.

If you are comfortable jamming away and decide you want to take it even further, check out the info on the advanced level.

*President's Letter continued on page 5*

### *President's Letter, continued from page 4*

#### **Advanced level:**

We currently also have a group that teaches people to play at an advanced level. The purpose of this group is to hone your jamming skills even more, and to give you tools to play your breaks and to lead songs at an even higher level. It also aims to prepare you for playing in a band at performance (gigging) level. If you are participating in intermediates and you would like to move to advanced, talk to your intermediate leader about how to transition.

#### **Skills you need to participate in the Advanced class:**

- Know four to six songs to sing by heart (with confidence); play breaks/fills at performance song speed, preferably mixed types, 4/4 time bluegrass, waltz, ballad, instrumental; and can lead those songs with confidence
- Play rhythm with a very strong and tight groove
- Know at least six vocal melodies to songs that you can play instrumentally
- Have kick-offs and endings for all your lead songs
- Be able to sing harmony parts
- Can improvise breaks/fills on songs you don't know
- Are completely comfortable with all the aspects of jam etiquette

#### **Things you will learn in Advanced:**

- More ways to enhance your breaks/fills and integrate them with the song arrangement
- Ways to arrange a song (song order, breaks which instruments, harmonies, etc. Often times a performance song arrangement will be very different from a jam arrangement. Unless you are the Grateful Dead :-))
- Microphone technique, such as face or instrument placement at a mic, and band choreography during the performance of a song to make proper use of the sound equipment
- General tips on performance presence (such as how to engage an audience, how to keep the pace going, how to deal with the unexpected, etc.)

Advanced players also have the opportunity to mentor or lead intermediates and beginners. If you have never done it, teaching is a great way to bring up your own musicianship and it is extremely rewarding!

#### **Other possible workshop activities:**

We also occasionally have instrument breakouts where everyone playing a certain instrument will be together in a circle or workshop. And we plan to do a couple of vocal workshops each month as well. If we can fit it in, we may do a couple of workshops on instrumental fiddle/banjo tunes. The times of these will be announced as we go along during the sessions.

Happy picking, enjoy the rest of your summer, and see you in the Fall!

*Karen*

Karen Dismachek

desert.bluegrass.president@gmail.com



**Announcing . . .**

# New August Jams

**SOMETHING NEW FOR THIS SUMMER . . . WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON JAMS AT WILMOT LIBRARY!**

~ August 2 ~

~ August 16 ~

~ August 30 ~

**Time:** From 3:30 - 5:30 (the Library closes at 6:00 pm), bring your best Bluegrass self and jam the summer doldrums away on three Wednesdays in August!

**Location:** Murphy-Wilmot Library,  
530 N. Wilmot Rd, Tucson, AZ

**Monday Night Workshop** resumes September 11 at St. Francis, River and Swan, 6:30-8:30 pm. Always check the calendar for changes. In the meantime, practice that picking!

**Questions?** Contact Carole at [dbamondayworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:dbamondayworkshop@gmail.com)



This photo is from a recent summer indoor jam, and if you are in town, we hope you are connected with other players this summer!

*Bring 'em!*



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## Welcome to Our New & Returning Members

**Russ Barnard**  
**John Crooks**  
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**Lee Holtry**  
**John Livingston**  
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# DBA CAMPOUT AT PATAGONIA LAKE



Jammers at the DBA Campout

**JOIN us at PATAGONIA LAKE**

**Sept 29, 30, and Oct 1, 2023**

**Our last campout was a great success! We hope you will join in the fun this year.**

Last year, we had campers on 27 sites. We broke into multiple groups, giving us choices of people to pick with. This many pickers made for an especially great weekend. Patagonia Lake is the perfect oasis in southern Arizona for hiking, swimming, fishing, kayaking, and boating. All these activities, and bluegrass jamming in between! There will be several scheduled jams throughout the weekend. And like last year, we will have a select DBA band performing for the park Saturday around 5:30 or 6:00 pm under the ramada at the beach.

We camp in an area in the WEST campground where campsites (78 —>102) surround a large circle of grass and shade trees where we put up canopies for our get-togethers. The sites around the area go fast, so make your reservations right away if you would like to attend. If you make a reservation now and need to cancel, as long as you cancel two days before, all but \$3.20 (reservation fee) will be returned to you. If you need to cancel, please let us know because we always have a last-minute waitlist and would prefer to pass your spot on to pickers and grinders.

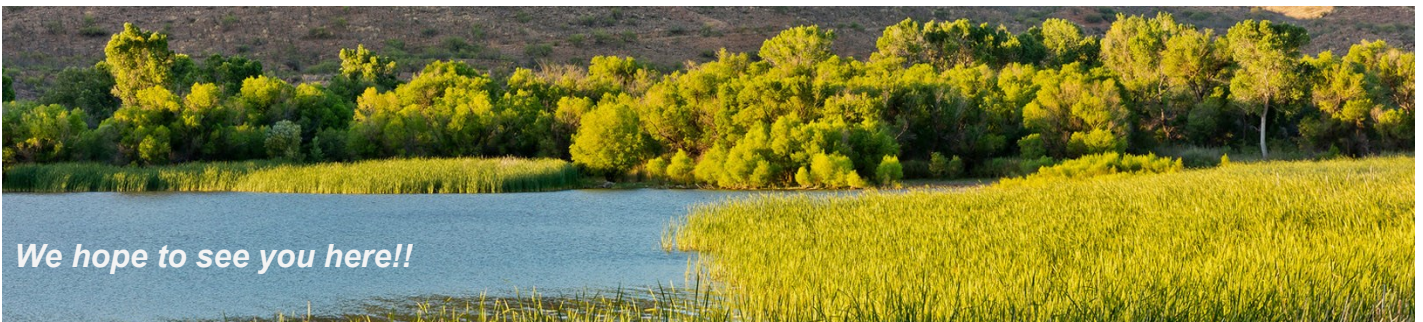
See our last December newsletter for pictures and articles about the last campout: <https://desertbluegrass.org/wp-content/uploads/Newsletters/2022-Dec-Jan-Newsletter.pdf>. Most sites have electricity and water. There is a bathroom with showers. There is a dumping station on the way out. There are also cabins and tent sites. At this printing, all tent sites have been reserved.

The park reservation number is 520-586-2283 (option 1) or you may book online. [Click here to reserve a campsite](#) — choose the dates you want to stay to check availability. [Click here to see photos of each campsite](#).

If you plan to go, please let us know so that we can send you information the week before about the schedule and plans. Email your name and the site # you have reserved to [DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com). If you have any questions, call Dale Lynne Vickroy at 520-664-0340 or Dave Polston at 520-245-6126.

If you are not a camper, we hope you will consider coming down for the day on Saturday. The park says "Day Visitors" may not be allowed on busy Saturdays; however, a vehicle joining someone on a reserved site IS allowed for a \$15 or \$20 fee. If you would like to join us for the day, call Dale for information on what to say so you can get in or email us and we'll also send you the info sent to campers.

Because the lake is such a great getaway and just an hour from Tucson, most spots down there fill up a year in advance. Don't delay, reserve right away!



*We hope to see you here!!*





## Fiddler's Corner

# Road Trip

*By Suzette Sommerer*

A small group of us recently took a day trip to the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix. It was my first visit, and I will definitely go back. There is so much more to see than is possible in one short day.

We started the morning with a behind-the-scenes VIP tour that was well worth the extra cost (or would have been, if we weren't attending an alumni event sponsored by my school). We were taken first to an enormous storage room filled with instruments and other musical paraphernalia not currently on display, where we learned about the incredible attention to detail that is paid to these instruments and their care,



Karen finds her people

right down to the analysis of insects caught in the glue traps scattered about to assess whether any harmful pests are attempting entry. Next up was the "clean room," where the instruments themselves are prepared for display. As we were listening, two members of our little band were suddenly very excited and called us over. There, laying on a cloth, was a well-worn banjo, with the name "Earl Scruggs" carved into the tailpiece. Sure enough, the tag on the headstock said "Earl Scruggs's banjo!" And when we asked our guide to tell us a little more about it, he became quite animated, and pointing to the very large wooden figure behind it said, "Oh, yes, this is a slit drum from Vanuatu!" and went on to talk about that. Clearly not a bluegrass fan!

Our next stop was the "dirty room," because of course you wouldn't want to bring dirt (flecks of paint, bits of whatever debris) from there into the clean room. Here mountings are created to provide good support for the instruments as unobtrusively as possible. This is also where the mannequins for the displays come to life, sometimes in elaborate costume, more often just a suggestion of a person, frequently headless, to show how an instrument might be played without distracting

elements. Finally, we visited the theater, including backstage, green room, dressing room, the stage and hall itself, and the projection booth up above. We immediately decided that this was a venue we'd love to play!

The museum was founded by Robert Ulrich, former CEO and chairman emeritus of Target, and his friend Marc Felix in 2010, and cost more than \$250 million to build. Its collection of over 12,500 instruments and associated objects from nearly 200 countries is the largest in the world. More than 7000 of them are on display at any one time. Its architecture is striking, and quite beautiful, with many features reflecting both the landscape and various musical ideas. The exterior sandstone echoes the nearby desert, while windows high up are grouped like the black keys on a piano.

*Fiddler's Corner continued on page 11*



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### *Fiddler's Corner continued from page 9*

Inside, the galleries are spacious and inviting, and even small details such as spacing of the vertical spindles on banisters are modeled on the spacing of guitar frets. The galleries are spread over two floors, mostly divided geographically, with a few devoted to particular artists, an “experience gallery” where you’re invited to touch, a mechanical music gallery, and a gallery for traveling exhibits. The displays are very well laid out – typically a collection of instruments associated with a style or a place or maybe a particular performer and includes one or more video displays of the instruments being played, generally in their native settings. As you approach a monitor, the wireless headphones fade in the sound, moving smoothly from one performance to the next. There are videos about how instruments are made, how parts of instruments are made, how recordings are made, how instruments evolved. I personally went through two sets of batteries and started on a third for my headset!



The Notorious No-Gig Girl Band (Jennifer Johnson, Karen Dismachek, Lou Courtney, and Suzette Sommerer) explores Bluegrass.



Jennifer experiences bass envy (or maybe not - it looks way cooler than it sounds)

We settled on a nice, meandering pace that let us each spend as much time as we liked with all the exhibits. We started browsing immediately after the tour and a quick lunch, and stayed until closing at 5 p.m. Of the seven geographic galleries, we managed to cover only Europe, the U.S., and briefly, Asia, and we never even made it to the downstairs galleries! There is just so much more to enjoy. A return visit is most definitely in order.

It was a wonderful day, and a very nice way to spend quality time with musically inclined friends. Of course, that makes the drive a lot more pleasant, too. I really wish they had located the museum closer to us, because it is a wonderful place to enhance your musical education, and they have some amazing concerts coming up in the next few months. (Musical Instrument Museum, 4725 E Mayo Blvd, Phoenix, <https://mim.org>)



# Camp Bluegrass

*One of the best camps in the country. And some of the most fun you can have with your instrument!*

*Contributed by Dave Polston*

It was another great week in Levelland, Texas for Camp Bluegrass! Each year (36 years, 34 camps) a hundred or more banjo, guitar, mandolin, fiddle, dobro, and bass players arrive at South Plains College for a week of instruction from some of the top players in the country.

For the past three camps, I have been blessed to join the staff and run a nightly slow jam for the beginners. Each year, I also do a workshop on the first afternoon on understanding chord progressions. This year, I was asked to teach the beginning guitar workshop. It was an honor to teach guitar along with Tim May, Elliott Rogers, and the head of the ETSU Bluegrass program Dan Boner. The banjo players were instructed by the man who runs it all, Alan Munde, along with Bill Evans, Gerald Jones, and Scott Anderson. Fiddles were taught by South Plains Graduate and Becky Bueller Band Alumni Nate Lee.



Introducing the faculty to Bluegrass campers

Mandolins were taught by Steve Smith and Scott Napier. Jimmy Heffernan led the dobros, and Anne Luna kept the beat teaching the bass. For those wanting voice instruction, there was an agenda for that also with Dede Wyland.

The camp is held at a college, so we all lived in the dorms and ate our meals at the cafeteria. This is not your elementary school cafeteria, but some of the best food in Texas, and plenty of it! Most of the regularly attending students dieted a few weeks before camp knowing they were going to gain some weight. I even gained a few pounds.



The camp this year had 106 students, including thirteen from the **Desert Bluegrass Association**. We usually have twenty or more students each year, so it was a little light this time. We are hoping that more of you will join us next year.

DBA participants at Camp Bluegrass. Can you guess who the photo bomber is? None other than Dede Wyland! Not actually a DBA member but maybe in the not-too-distant future . . .

*Camp Bluegrass continued on next page*



*Camp Bluegrass, continued from page 12*

For the first four days, we met each morning between 7:30 and 8:00 am for breakfast and started classes at 9:00 am. Two classes were held in the morning, then we ate again. After lunch we would have another class. Following that there were three options: attend a master class, a workshop, or song writing. You could attend a master class with one of the instructors. Master classes were limited to five students per instructor so you could get a little one-on-one instruction. Most of the beginners attended the workshops where the topics were geared towards understanding the skills needed for jamming. Or you could attend a song-writing workshop taught by Chris Sanders and Elliott Rogers.



Dave Polston performing at the faculty concert

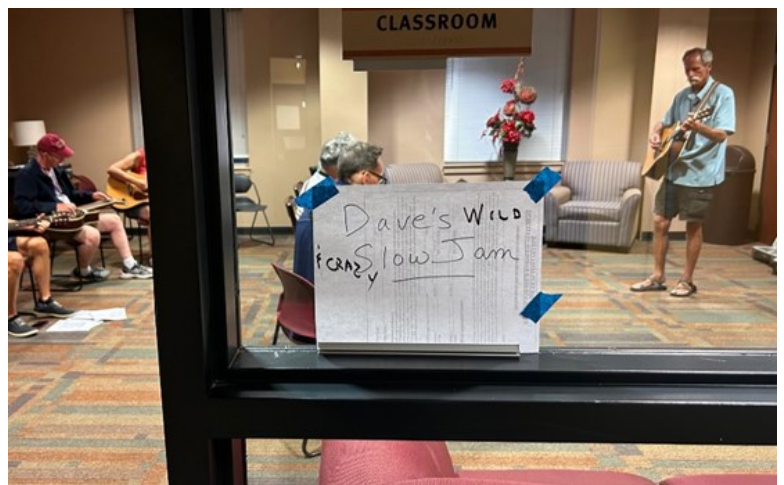
Each year there is a different theme for the camp. This year the theme was "West Coast Bluegrass," focusing on California, Oregon, and Washington

Rudy Mamula performing at the student concert



bands and performers. The last class each day is a history tutorial. We watched videos and heard interviews from artists including the Dillards, the Kentucky Colonels, High Country, Laurie Lewis, Herb Pederson, Chris Hillman, and more. Then we ate again. After dinner each night there was a faculty concert. Watching the pros perform is always a highlight and a great inspiration for all the students.

Following the concert, you could attend one of the two slow jams or find jams going on in the lobby or common areas of the dorms. After about a 16-hour day, nobody has a problem getting to sleep!!!!



Dave's Jam Class at Camp Bluegrass, above left and right





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***Camp Bluegrass, continued from page 13***

The last day (Friday) was a fun day. During the week, students found new friends and put together little bands and performed at the student concert. Each person or band would get two songs. There were over twenty acts this year. The DBA always gets the last slot and we end it with, of course, "Will the Circle be Unbroken." We then all sing the camp song, "Camp Bluegrass." (Those are the only words in the song.). We receive our diplomas and transfer our capos from our right pocket to our left pocket. We end it with one more meal, say our goodbyes to our new and old friends, and hit the road for home with about a year's worth of homework.

The one person I haven't mentioned yet is Paula Carr. If it wasn't for her, none of this would happen. She takes care of everything and everybody!

**Make your plans now for mid-July, 2024. Camp Bluegrass is one of the best camps in the country. Make sure you are part of it next year!!! (<https://campbluegrass.com/>)**



DBA members closing out the student concert at Camp Bluegrass with what else? "Will the Circle be Unbroken?!"

## DBA Calendar for Jams & Workshops

For the most current information and last-minute schedule changes to the DBA's jams etc., check the online calendar at: [https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=nqkrtso114nrj6glt1uth4ifl4@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Phoenix)

[src=nqkrtso114nrj6glt1uth4ifl4@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Phoenix](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=nqkrtso114nrj6glt1uth4ifl4@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Phoenix).

### NOTES:

- **Monday workshops ended on May 15 and will restart on September 11, 2023.**
- The Far Horizons Jam is also finished for this season, and there will be no more jams there until around November.
- The **jam at Christopher Columbus Park** is on hiatus until further notice.

### General Schedule Info

SUNDAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ First and third Sundays: Jam @ Udall Park, 7-9 pm</li> <li>◆ Fourth Sundays: Jam @ Thirsty's Neighborhood Bar &amp; Grill, 4-6 pm</li> </ul>
MONDAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Weekly workshop, St. Francis in the Foothills, resumes on Monday, September 11. Questions can also be directed to the workshop coordinator at <a href="mailto:DBAmondayworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondayworkshop@gmail.com</a>.</li> </ul>
WEDNESDAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ August 2, 16, and 30, Murphy-Wilmot Library, 3:30-5:30 pm</li> </ul>
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Third Thursdays: Jam @ Trail Dust Town, 7-9 pm</li> </ul>

### Locations

- **Murphy-Wilmot Library**, 530 N. Wilmot Rd., Tucson, AZ
- **St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church**. 4625 E River Rd, Tucson, AZ 85718. Turn right as you enter the property from River Road to find the Community Room. See signs.
- **Thirsty's Neighborhood Bar & Grill**. 2422 N. Pantano Rd, Tucson, AZ 85715
- **Trail Dust Town**. 6541 E Tanque Verde Rd, Tucson, AZ 85715. Meet by the gazebo at Trail Dust Town
- **Udall Park**, Morris K. Udall Regional Park, 7200 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson, AZ 85715

See the next page for the DBA's day-by-day calendar of jams and workshops.  
But be sure to check the [DBA online calendar](#) for last-minute changes!

## DBA Calendar, *continued*

### August 2023

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event &amp; Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Wednesday	August 2	3:30 – 5:30 pm	Jam @ Murphy-Wilmot Library	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>
Sunday	August 6	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Udall Park	Mike 520-403-0168
Wednesday	August 16	3:30 – 5:30 pm	Jam @ Murphy-Wilmot Library	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>
Thursday	August 17	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Trail Dust Town	Bonnie (520) 349-4812
Sunday	August 20	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Udall Park	Mike 520-403-0168
Sunday	August 27	4 – 6 pm	Jam @ Thirsty's	Bonnie (520) 349-4812
Wednesday	August 30	3:30 – 5:30 pm	Jam @ Murphy-Wilmot Library	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>

### September 2023

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event &amp; Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Sunday	Sept 3	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Udall Park	Mike 520-403-0168
Monday	Sept 11	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Workshop @ St. Francis	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>
Sunday	Sept 17	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Udall Park	Mike 520-403-0168
Monday	Sept 18	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Workshop @ St. Francis	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>
Thursday	Sept 21	7 – 9 pm	Jam @ Trail Dust Town	Bonnie (520) 349-4812
Sunday	Sept 24	4 – 6 pm	Jam @ Thirsty's	Bonnie (520) 349-4812
Monday	Sept 25	n/a	No Workshop	<a href="mailto:DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com">DBAmondaysworkshop@gmail.com</a>



Enjoying the jam at Trail Dust Town!



# CLASSIFIEDS

**Hey Pickers,** After being in Montana and Albuquerque for quite a while, I am back in the great state of Arizona. If any of you are interested in lessons on banjo, guitar, dobro, or mandolin, give me a shout at [Davepolston@yahoo.com](mailto:Davepolston@yahoo.com) or call me at **520-245-6126**.

**El Rio Violino** Repair of violin-family instruments, bow rehairing, violins for sale. Call Marc Rennard, 314 313-0318 (located on west side of Tucson).

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

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## TO INSTRUCTORS & BANDS



Would you like your services, band, and/or concerts listed on our website, at [www.desertbluegrass.org](http://www.desertbluegrass.org) ? Current DBA members can be listed by sending their contact information to Dale Lynne Vickroy at [DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:DesertBluegrassWebmaster@gmail.com). Refer to the "Links" tab on the homepage to view current band and instructor information. We have added a second calendar to the website for other (non-DBA sponsored) concerts and events. If you are a member of a band, and have a gig scheduled that you would like added to that calendar, send me the date, time, address and band contact info. You may also include a link to your band's website or to a special event flyer.

## BANDS

### Cabin John Bluegrass

Bookings: Anni Beach 480-963-6811  
[annibeach1@gmail.com](mailto:annibeach1@gmail.com)  
 Web: Howard Anderson 480-897-7425  
[handy31@mindspring.com](mailto:handy31@mindspring.com)  
[www.cabinjohnbluegrass.com](http://www.cabinjohnbluegrass.com)

### Copper Ray

Bob Russman 775-747-1214  
[bob@copperrayband.com](mailto:bob@copperrayband.com)  
[copperrayband.com](http://copperrayband.com)

### Dan Levenson and The Cat Mountain Rounders

Dan Levenson 412-551-0933  
[clawdan1@gmail.com](mailto:clawdan1@gmail.com)  
[www.ClawDan.com](http://www.ClawDan.com)

### Dust Devils

Rudy Mamula 520-977-5543  
[tucsonrudy@msn.com](mailto:tucsonrudy@msn.com)

### Dusty River Bluegrass Band

Rich Errico 520-818-0358  
[Rerrico1@q.com](mailto:Rerrico1@q.com)  
[www.facebook.com/DustyRiverBand/](http://www.facebook.com/DustyRiverBand/)

### FRESH APPLES

Bookings: 602-618-6285  
[thefreshapplesband@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshapplesband@gmail.com)  
[www.Facebook.com/thefreshapplesband](http://www.Facebook.com/thefreshapplesband)  
 Demo video: <https://youtu.be/Q2zDXiq0STs>

### Hamilton Beech

Doug Bowers 520-314-1034  
[woodsongstucson@yahoo.com](mailto:woodsongstucson@yahoo.com)  
[woodsongscoffeehousetucson.godaddysites.com](http://woodsongscoffeehousetucson.godaddysites.com)

### High Lonesome

John McCann 517-212-3100  
 423-430-4543  
[office@highlonesomebluegrassband.com](mailto:office@highlonesomebluegrassband.com)  
[highlonesomebluegrassband.com](http://highlonesomebluegrassband.com)

### Jam Pak Blues 'N' Grass Neighborhood Band

Anni Beach 480-963-6811  
[annibeach1@gmail.com](mailto:annibeach1@gmail.com)  
[www.jampak.org](http://www.jampak.org)

### Just Plain Folk

Rob Wright 520-370-4843  
 Suzette Sommerer:  
[s.sommerer@icloud.com](mailto:s.sommerer@icloud.com)  
 240-463-1985  
[tradbanjo@comcast.net](mailto:tradbanjo@comcast.net)  
[just-plain-folk.com](http://just-plain-folk.com)

### Kentucky Sky Bluegrass

Randy Hackworth 208-251-0575

### Linda Lou & The Desert Drifters

Linda Lou 520-444-9897  
[Facebook.com/desertdrifters](https://Facebook.com/desertdrifters)

### Lost Hombres

Slim Edelman 520-444-2522  
[s.edelman@icloud.com](mailto:s.edelman@icloud.com)  
 Joe Reighley 520-229-4123  
[reighlej@cox.net](mailto:reighlej@cox.net)

### MojoGrass

Daniel Stolte 520-369-7524  
[mojograssaz@gmail.com](mailto:mojograssaz@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/mojograss](http://www.facebook.com/mojograss)

### North of Lonesome

Alan Lister 623-692-8620  
[alister377@gmail.com](mailto:alister377@gmail.com)  
[www.NorthofLonesome.com](http://www.NorthofLonesome.com)  
 Facebook: North of Lonesome Bluegrass

### Ocotillo Rain

Booking: Holly Tripp 520-241-8421  
[ocotillorain.com](http://ocotillorain.com)

### Old Pueblo Bluegrass Band

Reid Griffin 520-349-4321  
[manzanitabluegrass@dakotacom.net](mailto:manzanitabluegrass@dakotacom.net)  
[www.facebook.com/theoldpueblobluegrassband/](http://www.facebook.com/theoldpueblobluegrassband/)

### Permafrost Road

Ken Brown  
 801 W. Limberlost, Unit P  
 Tucson, AZ 85705  
 (907) 378-6542

### Peter McLaughlin

520-247-1027  
<http://www.petermclaughlin.info/>

### Romen Buffalo and the Loyal Order

Scott Lewis 602-265-9887  
[romenbuffalo.com](http://romenbuffalo.com)

### The Sonoran Dogs

Peter McLaughlin 520-247-1027  
[www.thesonorandogs.com](http://www.thesonorandogs.com)

### Ten Dollar Wedding

Chris Doyle 602-315-0615  
[chris.doyle@cox.net](mailto:chris.doyle@cox.net)  
<https://www.facebook.com/tendollarwedding>  
<https://instagram.com/tendollarwedding>

### Way Out West

Emmy Creigh 520-323-0704  
[www.bluebhikku.com/WayOutWest.htm](http://www.bluebhikku.com/WayOutWest.htm)



*Learn to play and come to the DBA workshops and jams!*

## INSTRUCTION

### Reid Griffin

Guitar Instruction All levels and styles  
(520) 349-4321

### Dan Levenson

Old Time fiddle, old-time guitar,  
and clawhammer banjo  
Clawdan1@gmail.com  
412-551-0933  
[www.Clawdan.com](http://www.Clawdan.com)

### Andy McCune

Bluegrass & clawhammer banjo, mandolin,  
guitar, dobro, & bass  
520-869-6818

### Peter McLaughlin

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

### Dave Polston

Banjo, guitar, and dobro lessons  
520-245-6126

### Mike Purdy

Guitar, mandolin, and banjo  
520-977-9780

### Marc Rennard

Fiddle, mandolin, and guitar  
314-313-0318  
cramdranner@yahoo.com  
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Instruments – and Bow Rehair

## GREAT WEBSITES

### Desert Bluegrass Association

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

### Arizona Bluegrass Association

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

### Bluegrass Arizona Blog

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

### Bluegrass Backing Tracks (Free)

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

### Bluegrass Lyrics

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

### Bluegrass Tablature

[www.alltabs.com/bluegrass\\_tabs.php](http://www.alltabs.com/bluegrass_tabs.php)

### Daily Dose of Bluegrass

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

#### Banjo:

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

#### Bass:

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

#### Dobro:

[www.reso-nation.org](http://www.reso-nation.org)  
[www.resohangout.com](http://www.resohangout.com)

#### Fiddle:

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

#### Guitar:

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

#### Mandolin:

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



## JAMS & OPEN MICS

Below is the previous list of selected other, non-DBA-related jams.

Check local contacts for current and future scheduling. Some jams may no longer be running or may have changed schedules and/or locations.

### **Southern AZ Old Time Fiddlers Association**

Unitarian Universalist Church  
4831 E 22nd St, Tucson  
Tuesday 6:30—8:30pm  
Info: Wilbur 520-743-7086

### **Open Acoustic Jam in Oracle**

First Thursday of every month  
6:30-8:30 pm  
October through April  
Oracle Community Center  
685 E American Ave, Oracle,  
AZ 85623  
\$2 per person  
Map and directions are on the  
website:  
[www.ORCA.desertsky.us](http://www.ORCA.desertsky.us)  
Info: Shay Cardell  
1-520-357-6432  
[orca@desertsky.us](mailto:orca@desertsky.us)

### **Casa Grande Airport Jam**

1st & 3rd Saturday, 12:00 pm.  
Casa Grande Municipal Air-  
port, 3225 N Lear Ave. Casa  
Grande Az. Acoustic stringed  
instruments only, NO Amps,  
Bluegrass songs preferred.  
Contact Steve Hartwell  
[steve@arizonabluegrass.com](mailto:steve@arizonabluegrass.com)

## ASSOCIATIONS

### **Arizona Bluegrass Association**

P.O. Box 42406  
Phoenix, AZ 85080-2406  
Mark Jukich, Chairman  
[markj@arizonabluegrass.com](mailto:markj@arizonabluegrass.com)  
218-390-7342  
[www.arizonabluegrass.com](http://www.arizonabluegrass.com)

### **International Bluegrass Music Association**

4206 Gallatin Pk.  
Nashville, TN 37216  
Phone 615-256-3222 | Toll Free 1-888-438-4262  
Email [info@ibma.org](mailto:info@ibma.org) | [www.ibma.org](http://www.ibma.org)

### **Hall of Fame Bluegrass Music & Museum**

311 West Second St.  
Owensboro, KY 42301  
270-926-7891  
888-MY BANJO (toll-free)

### **Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association**

[www.arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org/index.html](http://www.arizonaoldtimefiddlers.org/index.html)

### **Arizona Old Time Fiddlers Association, Southern Arizona Chapter**

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

### **Southwest Old Time String Band Association**

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

### **Tucson Friends of Traditional Music**

[www.facebook.com/Tucson-Friends-of-Traditional-Music-91279619523/](http://www.facebook.com/Tucson-Friends-of-Traditional-Music-91279619523/)  
[tucsoncontradancers.org/](http://tucsoncontradancers.org/)

### **Tucson Kitchen Musicians Association**

[www.tucsonfolkfest.org/](http://www.tucsonfolkfest.org/)  
[www.facebook.com/TucsonFolkFest/](http://www.facebook.com/TucsonFolkFest/)

# Desert Bluegrass Association

August 2023 — September 2023

Volume 29 Issue 3



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

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Membership dues for the Desert Bluegrass Association are \$20 annually per family and are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Members joining after September 1 of any year will have their memberships extended through the next year. Those joining before September 1 must renew the following March 1<sup>st</sup>.

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to be included in the Membership Directory? (Check one)      YES      NO

What instruments do you play?      BANJO      BASS      FIDDLE      GUITAR      MANDOLIN

RESONATOR GUITAR      OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form then mail it, along with your personal check or money order payable to Desert Bluegrass Association to:

Mike Headrick (DBA Membership Secretary)  
13308 E Placita el Algodon  
Tucson, AZ 85749