

J a m b o r e e

SPRING 2000

online at banjoben.com

Number 23

No Brakes hosts Cadillac Stage

New HVBA Open Mic at Cadillac Ranch Steakhouse Sunday March 26

by Jeffrey Anzevino

By popular demand the **Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association** is beginning a series of open mics on the last Sunday of each month at the **Cadillac Ranch Steakhouse**. With strong support, we can look forward to enjoying this venue for months to come. **No Brakes** will host the first **Cadillac Stage** on Sunday March 26 from 2 to 5 PM.

Many attending our popular jam session at the **Pirate Canoe Club** have asked us to hold weekend events. **Cadillac Stage** is designed to serve that purpose, plus showcase talented host bands, as well as allow others to perform on stage before an audience.

No Brakes is a popular bluegrass band with a large following. They have just finished a busy February, appearing at **The Cubbyhole Cafe** in Poughkeepsie, **The Howland Center** in Beacon, and **The HVBA Winter Fundraiser** at **Rivendell Winery** in New Paltz. They also opened for **Buddy Merriam and Backroads** at **St. Luke's Church** in Somers.

No Brakes consists of HVBA Board Members **Frank Kara** (man-



Howard A. Ellis

No Brakes performing at the Cubbyhole Cafe with special guest Andy Bing on resonator guitar.

dolin), **Eric Spaulding** (guitar), and **Freeman Corey** (fiddle), as well as **Ken Flowers** (banjo) and the newest member of the band, **Rob Bradley** (bass).

Cadillac Ranch Steakhouse will be offering its complete menu of delicious steaks, seafood, pasta, salads, burgers, appetizers, and desserts.

Performers should come early and bring those instruments and voices! Invite your friends to enjoy the delicious food, good music and friendly company at Cadillac Stage. **Cadillac Ranch** is conveniently located opposite the Super 8 Motel, just two minutes from New York State Thruway Exit 18 at New Paltz (914) 255-4025. ☞

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Message from the President

First of all, I would like to personally thank all of the people who helped us at our Fun-Raiser. With the efforts of many the event proved to be very successful and our objectives were met. Thanks to the Rivendell Winery for the use of their Cafe. The atmosphere made for an enjoyable night of food, wine and music. I would like to thank all those folks who brought food and supplied the music all night for the benefit of the HVBA. Our members are such special people, who give their time and talents for the enjoyment of all. I cannot begin to stress the importance of their giving, time and time again to our association. It takes the efforts of many to make a night of music for our members to enjoy. As usual the night proved to be a very special night for all those who attended.

As an organization, the HVBA is still very young compared to some of the bluegrass associations in the world, but our association has sponsored some very important events since it's inception. As President I can tell you that we will continue in our efforts to spread the word about "Bluegrass Music." As far as a form of music in the world it is still very young. It will continue to grow and change as more people become aware of it and start to play it. Thanks to the forefathers of bluegrass music they have

**Hudson Valley
Bluegrass Association**

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given us a solid base on which the music can grow and be improved upon. I recently attended a bluegrass happening at the Nevele in the Catskills. It was sponsored by one of the hardest working

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**Sign me up! in the
Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association**

- Enclosed is for \$10 for new membership.
- Enclosed is for \$10 for my renewal.
- Enclosed is an additional gift of \$_____.

Mail to: Joyce Cullen, Membership Coordinator, 395 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579
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Name: _____
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Comments: _____
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**Part 3: 1996 to Y2K
A (not so) Brief History of The HVBA**

by Jeffrey Anzevino, HVBA Founder

The third of a multi-part history of the HVBA covers 1996 through the present

On February 18, 1996, a concert at VBI dubbed Hoedown in Po'town became a benefit for Eric Spaulding who had suffered an aneurism. Fox Hill, Breakeven, Pancake Hollow, and The Boys from Shelton Laurel performed. Happily, Eric has long since fully recovered and went on to play guitar for Pancake Hollow and later No Brakes.

In the summer of 1996, the first of two Bluegrass Showcases was held at Waryas Park in Poughkeepsie. Bands played for free so that the stipend paid to us was deposited in our treasury. Pancake Hollow, Mike Burns, Bradley, Calberson and Carnahan, Code Blue, and Mark Patton played. Next year, The Higgins Brothers, Jim Conklin, Rob Bradley, Bob Bernstein, Don Rynd; Pancake Hollow, Ann Lukacs, and Mike Burns and North Country performed.

The Hudson Flyer, an acoustic radio show featuring bluegrass, cajun, and old time music premiered on WHVW AM 950 on August 6, 1996. Jeffrey Anzevino or "Jeffro" was the original host. Chris Scheu, Melissa Moreton and later Doctor Romo (started November 11, 1997) have served as

hosts. Doctor Romo and Chris ran the show, which aired every Tuesday from 6-9 PM until the Summer of 1999.

Bill Keith and Upstate Bluegrass was presented at our Second Anniversary bash at the Vassar Brothers Institute held on November 3, 1996. Mike Burns played during the open mic as a solo act. Everyone was impressed. Mike now plays at HVBA events regularly with his band North Country.

Winter fundraisers were held at the Rivendell Winery's Cafe Noir from 1997-2000. Pancake Hollow, Mike Burns and North Country, Heinzevino,

Grass, Rob Bradley, The Swamp Creek Seven, The Santner Brothers, No Brakes and Jim Conklin performed gratis at these fundraisers so that the HVBA could raise money to program future activities.

On May 24-25, 1997, the HVBA hosted a fingerpicking guitar workshop and concert featuring Steve Kaufman. Ahead of the Beat opened the show, which was generously sponsored by Homespun Tapes.

The Gibson Brothers starred at our fall show, held at St. James Episcopal Church in Hyde Park on November 2, 1997. Pancake Hollow opened the show. The Riverbank Banjo Band provided the sound system and engineering.

North Country Music produced a concert celebrating the HVBA's Fourth Anniversary on November 28, 1998 at St. Luke's Church. Sala-

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Everything you 've always wanted to know about saddles -- but were afraid to ask

by Bruce Morrison

The saddle is one of the guitar's most important components. While its functions of helping to set the action and determine the intonation are familiar, the choice of materials, the fit, the amount exposed above the bridge, the radius, and the shape of the cross section are frequently overlooked despite their important roles in producing optimal sound and playability.

Bone is the preferred material for acoustic guitar saddles. Its hardness and density make bone an excellent transmitter of string energy. While many of the modern synthetics are somewhat easier to work, they don't produce the tone of bone nor do they have its durability. Plastic is a poor choice because lacking hardness and density, it absorbs string energy, wears out more rapidly, and is prone to being bent forward by string tension.

The importance of the fit of the saddle cannot be overemphasized. For a guitar to produce its optimum sound, the saddle must fit the bottom and all sides of the saddle slot perfectly. When a saddle is loosely fit to the bottom, its motion within the slot dissipates considerable string energy rather than transmitting the energy to the bridge. Any gap whatsoever between the saddle and the slot denotes an imperfect fit. Mechanically, the guitar is inefficient. Only 5% or less of string energy is turned into sound. If 6% of string energy could be turned into sound, the guitar's efficiency could be increased by

20%, as 6% is 20% more than 5%. The key to a more efficient, better sounding acoustic guitar is a precisely shaped bone saddle which fits perfectly into an accurately routed saddle slot.

The requirements change with the installation of an under saddle

pick-up. Since the pick-up senses the saddle's vibration, a saddle which is not fit snugly is able to send more vibrations to the pick-up. With under the saddle pick-ups, saddles made of Micarta, a synthetic less dense than bone but with a more uniform density, seem to produce a better sound when

amplified. However, with a more loosely fit saddle made of a less dense material, the same guitar won't perform as well unamplified.

The saddle is the fulcrum over which string tension applies torque to the soundboard. Ideally, between 1/8" and 3/16" of the saddle should be exposed above the bridge. That produces an angle of downbearing of about 35 degrees. Formed as a string bends across the saddle, the angle of downbearing determines how much torque loads the soundboard. Too low an angle applies insufficient torque producing action which feels rubbery results in a noticeable loss of tone and volume. Too high an angle overloads the soundboard preventing it from vibrating as freely as it should,

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News Briefs

New Jam Session

HVBA member and bassist **Andy Bicking** has organized a bluegrass and old time jam session in Northern Dutchess County on the second Sunday of each month. This helps fill the need for weekend events. Musicians of all experience levels are encouraged to attend. The jam, which runs from 1 to 4:30 PM, will be held at **Cafe Magdalen** in Tivoli. Dates of future jams are **April 9** and **May 14**.

Pricky, Pair

HVBA friends **Les and Locke Hamilton**, aka **Prickly Pair** are about to release their third album, a CD, entitled *Rendezvous with the Moon*. The CD can be ordered by sending a check for \$12 (\$8 for a cassette) to: Prickly Pair, Cactus Chorale Entertainment, 605 East Fork Road, Dubois, WY 82513.

Mid Hudson Folk Fest

The Highland Cultural Center (691-6008) is planning a folk fest on July 22. **John Mc Cutcheon** will headline the show. Check out the Summer edition of *Jamboree* for further details.




HVBA Board member Eric Spaulding (r) absorbing Bill Keith's "bluegrass aura" at a recent jam session at the Pirate Canoe Club

Saddles

continued from page 4

which inhibits tone and volume. If the action is set correctly but the right amount of saddle is not exposed, a neck set may be needed to provide the correct saddle height above the bridge.

The arch or radius of the saddle from the bass to treble strings must match the arch of the fretboard. When the saddle's arch is less than the fretboard's, the inner strings are prone to buzzing because they sit too close to the frets. When the saddle's arch is higher than the fretboard's, not only may the inner strings be more difficult to fret, but intonations may arise, too. Looking at the cross-section, the back edge of the saddle should be rounded to give maximum string contact. With more string contact, more string energy is transmitted to the bridge.

With so many functions to perform, a precise saddle can improve the sound and playability of a guitar, while a faulty one will prevent an instrument from sounding and playing its best. 

EDITORS NOTE: This article is the first in a series generously donated by Bruce Morrison of Moonrise Music in Pawling, NY.

Heinzevino! Happenings

Heinzevino! will be playing at a benefit for the **Dutchess County Arts Council** on Friday March 24 at 6 PM at **Barnes & Noble** in Poughkeepsie. A percentage of all books purchased between 6 and 9 PM will be donated to the Arts Council.

Catch Heinzevino! at **Gadaletto's Seafood** in New Paltz from 6-9 PM on the first Thursday of each month.

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Turn your Radio On!

W11VW 950AM, Hyde Park, NY
 Pirate Joe Radio Show.....Weekdays 3-6 PM
 Jean the Record Queen....Alt. Sundays 1-3 PM
 Darwin Lee.....Sundays 3-6 PM
WKZE 98.1 FM, Sharon, CT
 Frank's Picks.....Fridays 7-11 PM
WKZE 1020AM, Sharon, CT
 Rachel Hannon.....Weekdays afternoons
WTBQ 1110 AM, Florida, NY
 Doctor Nick.....Saturdays 6-7:30 AM
WKCR 89.9 FM, Columbia U, NYC
 www.columbia.edu/cu/wkcr.....24 hrs/day
 Moonshine.....Sundays 10 -12 Noon
 Honky Tonkin'.....Tuesdays 9:30-11 PM
 Tennessee Border.....Sundays Noon -2PM
WVKR 91.3 FM, Vassar College, Pok., NY
 Hudson Valley Rag Shop.....Tues 5:30-8 PM
 Pickin' Party.....Thurs 10 to noon
 Shaving a Dead Man.....Thurs 1-3 PM
WAMC 90.3 FM, Albany, NY
 Dancing on the Air, w/ Jay & Molly
2nd each Wednesday each month 9-10:30 PM
 Hudson River Sampler.....Saturdays 8-10:30 PM
 Thistle & Shamrock.....Sundays 7-8 PM
WFDU 89.1 FM, Teaneck, NJ.
 Carol Beauregard.....Thursdays 6-9 AM
 Kim Gluckler.....Fridays 9 AM-1 PM
 Earl Karlsen.....Saturdays 6-9 AM
WCNY-FM 91.3 Syacus; 89.5 Utica; 90.9 Watertrn
 Bill Knowlton's Bluegrass Ramble
Sundays 9-midnight
WPKN 89.5 FM
 Chris Tesky.....Wednesdays 7-10 PM
WUSB 90.1 FM
 Buddy Merriam.....Wednesdays 6:30 - 8 PM
WRPI 91.5 FM, Troy, NY
 Andy Hawley.....Saturdays 7 to 10 AM
WLNL 1000 AM, Horsesheads, NY
 Bruce Cutler, "Country Route,"Sun 2 - 3 PM
WFLR 1570 AM,
 B. Cutler, "Gospel Doin's"Thursdays 6-7 PM
WBRV 900 AM, Boonville, NY
 B. Cutler, "Country Roots"Saturdays 5-6 PM
DSS Satellite System Channel 524 (audio
 only) Various times and days

Not so Brief History*continued from page 3*

mander Crossing headlined the show. Breakaway was featured on April 24, 1999 at the Hyde Park United Methodist Church. Heinzevino! was the opening act.

HVBA bands have had a tradition of giving back to the community by performing for other not-for-profit organizations. The HVBA has provided musical or other goods or services to Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Scenic Hudson, The Hudson River Maritime Museum, The Hudson Valley Rail Trail, The Children's Home, The Four Seasons Club, and The Dutchess County SPCA.

Through the generous assistance of HVBA member Stephen M. Lipton, we obtained our official not-for-profit status in April 1998, and our 501(c)(3) charter in June 1999.

Our most ambitious production, The First Annual Hudson Valley Bluegrass Music Festival -- Bluegrass Between the Bridges, showcased some of the nations hottest talent -- Salamander Crossing and Chris Jones and The Night Drivers -- plus five local favorites on September 18, 1999. The event was part of The Hudson River Arts Fest held on the Poughkeepsie waterfront.

In November 1999 new Officers were elected: Mike Burns, President; Chris Scheu, Vice President and Treasurer; Frank Kara, Secretary; and Joyce Cullen, Membership Coordinator. Dolores Tubbs and HVBA founder Jeffrey Anzevino remain on the Board of Directors, along with new Board Members Kat Mills and Freeman Corey. ✓

Old Meets New**Bluegrass on the Web**

Kat Polys

If you are internet literate, you know how fun and informative it can be to travel the web. However, if you type the word "bluegrass" into your favorite search engine, you may get as many as 38,000 sites that apply!! As bluegrass music gains popularity all over the country and the world, people are racing to get their festivals, merchandise, publications and recordings on-line, and it's no easy task to weed through them for what you want.

I am by no means an authority, but the following is a list of sites that I have looked at and used, and find to be helpful and reliable. If you know of other sites that you like, let us know. So boot up, log on and visit other bluegrass fans and players in cyberspace! And please let us know if you find other sites you like—we'll keep the list going in future issues.

General:www.bluegrassrules.com

The ultimate bluegrass site. Comprehensive info on events, bands

and recordings, plus links to other good websites.

www.bluegrassworld.com

Another complete bluegrass resource.

www.banjo.com

Wow! This site has unlimited stuff. Be sure to turn your speakers on for fun sounds!

www.banjoben.com

Our friend and supporter. Check out this site for HVBA stuff and more!

Other associations out there:www.ibma.org

The official site of our favorite big association. Events, news, membership info, etc.

www.californiabluegrass.org

A non-profit like us out in sunny California.

www.bbu.org

The Boston Bluegrass Union does it right. Get ideas about how we can grow at this site.

www.bbma.freemove.co.uk/

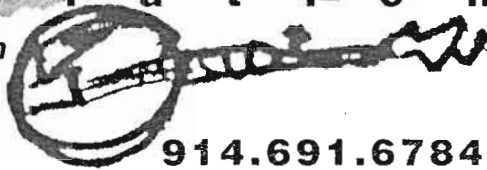
The British Bluegrass Association. There's more going on in Britain than we realize.

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T h e H u d s o n V a l l e y
B l u e g r a s s
A s s o c i a t i o n

Riverfront Jam Session
Pirate Canoe Club
POUGHKEEPSIE

Third Wednesday each month
914.691.6784
 Call for directions



SPBGMA time in Nashville

by Joyce Cullen

February is **SPBGMA** time! So as any good fan does, I returned to the scene of the fun and music. Watch out Nashville -- **Carmen** and I are back. I arrived on Saturday January 29 and went to see the **Grand Old Opry** at the **Ryman Auditorium**. **The Osborne Brothers** and **Ricky Skaggs** carried the bluegrass banner at the early show. Because parking is scarce near the Ryman, we couldn't stay for the **Midnight Jamboree** at the **Ernest Tubb Record Shop** across the street. **Ricky Skaggs** was the emcee. I wisely opted to get ahead on some sleep that night.

Sunday we did some sight-seeing accompanied by snow flurries. The ground got a dusting in some areas but it didn't last. Sunday night (Super Bowl Sunday) we went to the **Bluebird Cafe** and the new songwriter showcase.

The only bluegrass I saw before SPBGMA besides the above was Tuesday evening at **The Station Inn**. As usual, **The Sidemen** played, but that night did only one set. **Rhonda Vincent** made an appearance. The other set was **Larry Cordle and Lonesome Standard Time**. His song *Murder on Music Row* was Number 2 on the Bluegrass Unlimited charts and Number 1 on the Americana charts. **George Strait** is supposed to release it this month (with **Alan Jackson's** help).

We went over to the **Opryland Hotel** one evening while **Eddie Stubbs** (formerly with **The Johnson Mountain Boys**) was on the air on **WSM**. He brought us into the studio while he was on the air. It was very interesting as it's all computerized. It was a learning experience.

Then it was SPBGMA time. We moved down to **The Sheraton**. We began to see old friends from the bluegrass world. We went to the gospel show that night. Last year we had gone to the benefit for **Keith McReynolds**, but

decided this year that it was too far to drive. Unfortunately, **Keith** passed away the day before this year's show and it was changed at the last minute from a benefit to a memorial show.

Carmen's sister joined us on Friday. This year -- like last year -- we had a band practicing in our room: **Art Stevenson and Highwater** from Wisconsin. There were too many bands to name them all, but **Chris Jones** was there on Friday night, as were **Valerie Smith & Liberty Pike**, and **Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver**. Saturday we were treated to the music of the **Nashville Bluegrass Band**, **Rhonda Vincent**, **The Rarely Herd**, **The Reno Brothers**, **Charlie Waller**, **Lynn Morris**, and **Dry Branch Fire Squad**, among others.

Suddenly, it was Sunday, and the last day was upon us. The final round of the band competition takes place during the afternoon and the winners are announced before the supper break. **Art and Highwater** came in third, where they had been all along. Great band!

The evening was taken up by the award show with band performances. **The Osborne Brothers**, **The Lewis Family**, **IIIrd Tyme Out**, and **Lonesome River Band** did shows. **Rickie Simpkins** is now the fiddler with the **Lonesome River Band**. **Sammy Shelor** sat in on banjo for a song with **Lynn Morris**. Most of the awards were predictable, but **Jeff Weaver of The Rarely Herd** beat **Little Roy Lewis** for Entertainer of The Year.

All in all it was lots of fun and next year I'll be back. ☺



Joyce Cullen

Little Jimmy Dickens at The Ryman



Joyce Cullen

Roland White, mandolinist for The Nashville Bluegrass Band



Joyce Cullen

The Rarely Herd

Message from the President

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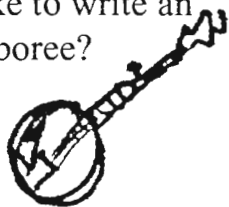
men in bluegrass: Mr. Harry Grant. We all know that you promote the music for the love of it, the enjoyment that it brings to its fans and not for the riches of money. I salute those folks involved in such endeavors, who continue to give of themselves to bring bluegrass music to the people. It was so nice to meet and greet so many of our members at the Nevele. I will personally call Harry and make sure there will be some tables in the dining room set aside for the HVBA at next year's event.

I know that our members will come forward time and time again as the call goes out for their help. From the bottom of my heart I thank you and your families for making our fun-raiser a success, and because of our love for bluegrass music, the friendships that we have developed over the years bluegrass music and our association will continue to grow.

Mike Burns, President

Would you like to write an article in Jamboree?

Call us at
(914) 691-6784
with your idea.



CADILLAC RANCH



Your chance to perform!

Cadillac Stage

New Paltz, NY

Sunday March 26.... 2-5 PM

Featured Host Band: No Brakes

HVBA (914) 691-6784 / 276-2239

Cadillac Ranch (914) 255-4025

Musicians:
Come
early.
Bring your
instrument.

News Briefs

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Music, Food & Phillie Bridge Farm

Speaking of **Gadaletto's**, **Kat Mills** and **Will Solomon** (of **Grass** fame) will play at the popular seafood house every other Wednesday from 6-9 PM. A portion of the proceeds from each meal will be donated to the **Phillie Bridge Farm Project**.

Poughkeepsie Live

HVBA bands that would like to perform on **Poughkeepsie Live** are invited to call **Raj Sirohi** at (914) 471-0683. **Heinzvino!** will be featured on Poughkeepsie Live at 7 PM on Thursday March 29 on Time Warner Cable Channel 28. The show will be rebroadcast on Saturday April 1 on MediaOne's Channel 6 at 7 PM.

Bluegrass & Beyond

Winterhawk 2000 Bluegrass and Beyond has announced acts for its festival on July 28-30. Among others, **Northern Lights w/ Vassar Clements**, **Chesapeake**, **The John Cowan Band**, **Jimmy Dale Gilmore**, **Chris Hillman**, **The McKrells**, will perform.

Banjoben.com

Ben Freed, HVBA member and banjoist for **American Flyer**, has set up a great website that provides everything you need to know about bluegrass in the Hudson Valley. Thanks, Ben, for posting *Jamboree* on the website. Check it out at banjoben.com.

In The Stream

Phase One of a photo project documenting people at the turn of the century focuses on fiddlers. If you are a fiddler, bass fiddler or fiddle maker and would like to participate, call [elizabeth.j.jones](mailto:elizabeth.j.jones@914.932-7831) at (914) 932-7831 or ej7342@aol.com.

Webgrass

Publications:

www.bluegrassmusic.com
Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine's site.
View articles, calendar, festival info, etc.

Recordings:

www.countysales.com
County Sales has been a favorite mail order source of recorded music for years.

www.cdnw.com

As much as I hate to promote a corporate giant, I have to admit they have it all, and at good prices.

Instructional Materials:

www.homespuntutapes.com
Homespun Tapes offers an array of products, including an extensive collection audio tapes, video tapes and CD lessons on all bluegrass instruments, as well as keyboards, percussion, accordion, dulcimer and more. You may also purchase performance videos and supplies, such as books, tuners, strings etc.

Festivals/Events:

www.festivalfinder.com
Invaluable to players and fans, this site can link you to festivals all over the country, arranged by type of music, and the bluegrass listings are decent.

www.tiac.net/users/jmmiller/barbal/

Yes, it's an unwieldy address, but they have an excellent calendar of events. It's based out of Boston, but includes the whole Northeast, including places we can easily get to.

www.GreyFoxBluegrass.com

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The website of the festival formerly known as Winterhawk (at the Ruthvoss farm in Ancramdale, NY).

www.winterhawk2000.com

The website of the festival now known as Winterhawk (held at same site as the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival)

Miscellaneous

www.bluegrassradio.com

RealAudio broadcasts of the famous radio show Into the Blue and shows at the World Famous Station Inn.

www.mtci.or.jp1-cotton/index.html/

They claim to have lots of bluegrass lyrics-a great promise. Sadly, I haven't been able to get my computer to contact them.

www.well.com/user/wellvis/steel.html
Brad's Page of Steel: the source for your dobro, slide and steel guitar needs. A long address, but worth it.

www.hulamons.com

Find out why the Washington Post calls this Hawaiian/Western Swing band "one of the best bands in the world." See them at the Grey Fox dance stage on Friday night.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Did we forget your favorite site? Let us know and we'll include it in a future edition of Jamboree.

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DISCOUNTS on
ACOUSTIC GUITARS
at Imperial Guitar and Soundworks
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American (10% above cost) Imported (20% above cost).

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Tell them the HVBA sent you

Dynamite

TNT Bluegrass Explosion (Dynamite)

Since it usually takes me five or more minutes to get my fingers to comply with the rigors of a G chord I always have a mock resentment for musical wonderkids. With **Tiffany Pope**, 18, lead guitar and vocals and sister **Teniah**, 16, banjo and harmony vocals, again, I think, it's not fair that someone that age can play 87 notes a second.

With **Dan Overton** on bass, these "kids" provide some fast finger work on such songs as *Dynamite*, an instrumental workup of *Salty Dog*, arranged by Tiffany or Teniah's *Look Up*, the traditional *Whoa Mule* and *Dueling Banjos*.

The sibling harmony, that I love, is carried through this CD with a soft lilting quality on the traditional and gospel mix that make up the sixteen cuts here. Two more originals, *Storms* and *Like a Dove*, highlight the girls' vocals.

Originally from North Carolina and now residing locally in Middletown, NY, **TNT Bluegrass Explosion** has been performing for thirteen years along the East Coast. If the girls themselves did not spend many years in the South they certainly have taken in the feeling of the musical heritage from their family and pulled it out here.

While it may be a guess, it sounds as if the original songs here are no doubt drawn from the inspiration of their faith and the resulting joy comes through to the listener. Order this CD from tntbge@frontier.net

Chris Scheu



Dynamite
Beyond the Grave
I Saw the Light
Georgia Mules and Country Boys
Look Up
Answer the Savior
Whoa Mule
Thread of Hope
Are you Washed in the Blood
Tennessee Flat Top Box
"All Aboard" Medley
Storms
I'll Fly Away
Dueling Banjos
Like a Dove
Amazing Grace

★★★ 1/2 Now that's bluegrass!



NewGrange

NewGrange (Compass Records 7 4280 2)

Six extremely talented musicians gracefully strut their stuff through uncharted territory in this outstanding recording. But, what would you expect from the likes of **Philip Aaberg** (keyboard), **Darol Anger** (fiddle), **Alison Brown** (banjo), **Mike Marshall** (guitar), **Tim O'Brien** (mandolin), and **Todd Phillips** (bass)?

Twelve songs ranging from fiddle/banjo tunes to modern pieces are offered on *NewGrange*. Each of the six artists chose one traditional and one original tune for this album.

Creative arrangements prevent the traditional material from sounding stale, a trap into which many fall. *Rock in a Weary Land* is a gospel piece slightly reminiscent of the popular **Hot Rize** sound, perfected over many years by Tim O'Brien and company. *Cabin Waltz* is a dreamy keyboard piece composed by Philip Aaberg. *Weetabix*, by Alison Brown, puts a new twist on the fiddle/banjo tradition with the addition of Aaberg's keyboards.

Another standout is *Goin' to Boston*.



NewGrange performing live at WKZE in November 1999



Handsome Molly
Sally Ann
Under The Hood
Rock In A Weary Land
Cabin Waltz
Goin' To Boston
Weetabix
Round Trip
Stone Coal West Virginia
Land's End (live)
Music Tree

★★★★ Top notch

This lighthearted tribute to Beantown transitions into a talking blues with clever references to life in one of my favorite cities: "Them lawyers there will make you tense so a fiddle tune is your best defense." The observant listener will catch subtle hints of songs such as *Whiskey Before Breakfast*, *Big Ball in Boston* and *Charlie and The MTA*.

This CD provides a glimpse into a musical future based upon on a strong foundation of tradition.

Jeffro

BLUEGRASS HAPPENINGS

Bluegrass Happenings is provided as a service to HVBA members and bands.

Call the HVBA at (914) 691-6784 to list your event.

3rd Wednesday of Every Month: Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association Jam, Pirate Canoe Club, Pok'psie (914) 691-678/276-2239

Every Monday: Fast Folk Cafe, NYC (212) 274-1636

3rd Tuesday of Each Month: North East Bluegrass Jam, Malt River Brewing Co., Latham NY, 8 PM, (518) 489-2369

Every Wednesday: Minetta Creek Band, Carpos, New York City (212) 353-2889

Every Wednesday: Too High String Band, The Choppin' Block, Jamaica Plains, NY

Every Wednesday: Uncle Bob's Bluegrass Jam at Jack Dempsey's NYC (212) 475-2726 or Uncle Bob at (212) 677-2688

2nd & 4th Wednesday: Warren Academy, Warren, CT 7 PM (201) 868-7659

3rd Tuesday of Each Month: Jam with Mother Judge and Nick Barr at Lark Tavern, Albany, NY (518) 489-2369

First Friday of Every Month: North Country Music's Bluegrass Jam, St. Luke's Church, (914) 276-2239

1st Saturday of Every Month: Jam hosted by Roger Sprung, United Methodist Church, Sandy Hook, CT

1st Saturday of Every Month: South Sound, College of New Rochelle (914) 235-5813

2d Saturday of Every Month: Walkabout Clearwater, Katonah, NY (914) 242-0374

3d Saturday of Every Month: Restoration Coffee House Open Mic; Old Dutch Reformed Church, Bloomingburg, NY; 7 PM; (914) 647-6491/986-8082

3d Saturday of Every Month: Hudson Valley Folk Guild Poughkeepsie Chapter, (914) 297-6372

Every Other Saturday: (Old Time only!!) Thady Con's Pub NYC; (212) 688-9700

Every Sunday: Bluegrass Session with Tom Hanway at Paddy O'Reilly's Bar, 3 PM NYC (718) 884-5721

Every Sunday: Coney Island High School, St. Mark's Place, upstairs 4-7 PM

Every Sunday: Club 9C in Manhattan 4 PM - ???; (212)-358-0048

First Sunday: Diamonds, Lindenhurst, NY 3-6 PM

Second Sunday: Cafe Magdalen, Tivoli, NY 1-4:30 PM (914) 758-2278

Every Monday: Riverbank Banjo Band, Banta's Steak 'n Stein, Poughkeepsie, NY

March 18: TNT Bluegrass Explosion, Media Play, Middletown, NY

March 19: The Wild West Ranch Winter Bluegrass Roundup: Sweet Cider, The String Dusters, and Dyer Switch, 1 PM (518) 885-5604 or 668-2121 or 346-9066

March 23: Stump Hollow at Raphael's Restaurant, Syracuse, NY 2-6 PM

March 24: Heinzevino! at Dutchess Arts Council Fundraiser, Barnes & Noble, Pok'psie, NY 6 PM (914) 454-3222 or 691-6784

March 24: Robin & Linda Williams at Kirkland Arts Center, Clinton, NY www.robinandlinda.com

March 25: Cedar Ridge at Neshobe Sportsmen's Club, Brandon, VT (802) 247-3275

March 26: No Brakes at Cadillac Stage Cadillac Ranch Steakhouse, New Paltz, NY 2 PM (914) 691-6784/276-2239 or 255-4025

March 26: The Warrior River Boys w/Dick Staber and Judith Chasnoff, Parting Glass, Saratoga Spgs, NY 2PM (518) 747-0039

March 31: Heinzevino! at Jazz & Java, Highland, NY 7:30 (914) 691-2635/6784

March 31: Doc Watson at The Bottom Line, NYC

April 1: TNT Bluegrass Explosion, Open Bible Baptist Church, Monroe, NY 7 PM

April 2: Reynolds & Cowan at Hart Library, Shrub Oak, NY 3 PM (914) 691-9390

April 2: Eric Garrison & May Robertson, Barebones & Wildflowers, The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY (914) 855-1300

April 6: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood, New Paltz, NY 6-9 PM (914) 691-6784/255-1717

April 7: Doctor Romo & The Cajun Swing Orchestra, Woodstock Community Center, Woodstock, NY 8 PM; \$7; (914) 384-6673

April 8: The Mollys; Walkabout Clearwater Coffeehouse, Katonah, NY; \$15; (914) 242-0374; www.lovesong.com/walkabout/

April 9: 6th Annual Old Time Fiddlers Gathering, Tri-Valley Elementary School, Grahamsville, NY (914) 985-2923 or plounsbury@nyseg.com

April 14: Dr. Ralph Stanley & The Clinch Mountain Boys; Emelin Theatre; Mammareoneck, NY; 8:30; \$24; (914) 698-0098

April 14-16: Murphy's Irish Weekend, The Renaissance Westchester Hotel, White Plains, NY (914) 592-1607

April 15: Jay Armsworthy & Eastern Tradition; St. Luke's, Somers, NY 8:30 PM (914) 276-2239

April 16: Robin & Linda Williams and Their Fine Band, The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY (914) 855-1300

April 22: Dry Branch Fire Squad, Karl Shifflet & Big Country Show, Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA; www.bbu.org or (617) 782-2251

April 21: Tim O'Brien & Darrell Scott, The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY (914) 855-1300

April 30: HVBA Open Mic: Cadillac Stage Cadillac Ranch Steakhouse, New Paltz, NY 2 PM (914) 691-6784/276-2239 or 255-4025

April 30: American Flyer at Northern Westchester Center for the Arts, Mt. Kisco, NY (914) 241-6922

April 30: Back to Basics with Gene Tyme, Parting Glass, Saratoga Springs, NY 2PM (518) 747-0039

May 4: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood, New Paltz, NY 6-9 PM (914) 691-6784/255-1717

May 5: Doctor Romo & The Cajun Swing Orchestra, Woodstock Community Center, Woodstock, NY 8 PM; \$7; (914) 384-6673

May 7: Commander Cody & His Lost Planet Airmen, The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY (914) 855-1300

May 11: Bela Fleck & Sandip Berman, The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY (914) 855-1300

May 18-21: Granite Hill Festival w/ Del McCoury, Riders in the Sky, Ralph Stanley, Lonesome River Band, Country Gentlemen, Seldom Scene, Liberty Pike, Doyle Lawson, Blue Highway, Auldridge, Bennett, Gaudreau, more Gettysburg, PA (800) 642-8378 or (717) 642-8749

May 19: The Laurel Canyon Ramblers, American Flyer; Emelin Theatre; Mammareoneck, NY; 8:30; \$21; (914) 698-0098

May 19-21: CRVBA Benefit with Bill Keith, Andalusia Jug Band, Backwater Eddy, Iron Skillet, Rocky Hollow, Ted Lanz Quartet, others at Stafford Fish & Game Club, Stafford Spgs, CT (860) 684-6217

May 19-21: Strawberry Park Blast from the Bayou w/Natalie McMaster, DL Menard, Beausoleil & Michael Doucet, Geno Delafosse, more Preston, CT (860) 886-1944

May 21: Grass Creek, Dilaj's Inn, Auburn, NY

May 26-28: PENNY's Memorial Day Festival w/ Cannonball Express, Morgan String Band, Wrench Wranglers, Craig Parsons, Blue Ridge Mountain Boys, Plexigrass, Classic Country, Cedar Ridge Coventryville, NY (607) 639-1141

June 1: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood, New Paltz, NY 6-9 PM (914) 691-6784/255-1717

June 2: Doctor Romo & The Cajun Swing Orchestra, Woodstock Community Center, Woodstock, NY 8 PM; \$7; (914) 384-6673

June 2-4: ABL Bluegrass Roundup, Al & Kathy Bain, Burnt Hills Bluegrass, Cedar Ridge, Dick Staber & Judith Chasnoff, Dyer Switch, Sweet Cider, more, Galway, NY (518) 747-0039

June 2-4: 23rd Annual BG Fest with Schankman Twins, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Seldom Scene, Ryan Holladay, Ralph Stanley, Breakaway, Lonesome River Band, more Strawberry Park, Preston, CT (860) 886-1944

June 2-4: Thousand Island Bluegrass Fest, LaFargeville, NY (315) 658-1141

June 17: Pickin' in the Pines, Look Park, Northampton, MA

June 17-18: Clearwater's Hudson River Revival, Croton Point Park www.clearwater.org

June 23-25: Norwich Family Bluegrass Festival, Norwich, NY (914) 121-2934

June 30-July 2: Wrench Ranch 4th of July Festival, Coventryville, NY (607) 639-1512

July 8: American Flyer at the Croton Library, Croton-on-Hudson, NY (914) 271-6612

July 13-16: Grey Fox Festival w/Dry Branch Fire Squad, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, John Hartford, Tony Rice, Peter Rowan, Tim O'Brien Band, Laurie Lewis & Her Bluegrass Pals, Natalie McMaster, Dr. Ralph Stanley, Chris Thile & Nickel Creek, Sugar Beat, The Rarely Herd, Country Current, Schankman Twins, Geno Delafosse & French Rockin' Boogie, The Hula Monsters, more (888) 946-8495 or www.GreyFoxBluegrass.com

July 13-16: Peaceful Valley Bluegrass Festival, 5 for the Gospel, The Chapmans, Hird Tyme Out, Mountain Heart, White Sands, Country Ham, Doyle Lawson, and more (607)363-2211

July 13-16: Rick & Carol's Country Bluegrass Festival, Smoky Greene, more (518) 793-8987

July 21: Andy Polon at Riverhead Blues Festival, Riverhead, NY

July 21-23: Falcon Ridge Folk Festival www.falconridgefolk.com

July 22: Mid-Hudson Valley Folk Festival w/ John McCutcheon, Heinzevino! others tba (914) 691-6008

July 28-30: Winterhawk 2000 Bluegrass and Beyond, Northern Lights w/Vassar Clements, Chesapeake, The John Cowan Band, Jimmy Dale Gilmore, Chris Hillman, The McKrells, and more www.winterhawk2000.com

July 28-30: Noppert Hill BG Fest with Del McCoury, James King, The Freighthoppers, Karl Shifflet, Goins Bros, Warrior River Boys, Bear Bridge Band, Gopher Broke Bluegrass, Mike Boulay, Buddy Merriam & Backroads, James Reams, more, Lanesboro, MA (413) 499-2805

August 3-6: 2nd Annual CNYBA Festival, The Carolina Rebels, Low Profile, Haldimand County Line, One Song, Andy Pawlenko and the Smoky Hollow Boys, more, LaFayette NY Apple festival Grounds (315) 487-6920

August 20: Heinzevino! at Senior Citizens Center, Eldred, NY (914) 557-6785 or 691-6784

September 8-10: Catskill Mountain Bluegrass Festival, Accord, NY (914) 687-9781

September 10: The Seventh Annual Westchester County Bluegrass Minifest, Croton Point Park, Croton, NY noon-5 PM

September 16: Second Annual Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association's Hudson Valley Bluegrass Music Festival: Bluegrass Between the Bridges, Poughkeepsie NY (914) 691-6784/276-2239

September 24: Heinzevino! at Concert on the Lawn, Young Morse Estate, Poughkeepsie (914) 691-6784

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Thursday
April 6
6-9 PM



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New Paltz, NY

Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association, Inc.

106 Pancake Hollow Road

Highland NY, 12528



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