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Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association
106 Pancake Hollow Road
Highland, NY 12528



Jamboree

The Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association

Spring 2006

online at www.hvbluegrass.org

Number 41

Too Blue tops six band bill at River Station March 26

Jeff Anzevino

The HVBA is proud to present six bands at our annual fundraiser on Sunday afternoon March 26 from noon to 4PM. This year, the show will be held for the first time in River Station's stunning upstairs dining room, which offers sweeping views of the Hudson River, bluffs and both historic bridges.

Admission is \$15/\$10 for HVBA members. Kids are free. Food and drink will be available from River Station's menu, so come hungry and leave happy, after an earful of great Bluegrass and Americana music by:

Cold Feat

The afternoon's festivities begin sharply at noon with Cold Feat, a new band born from HVBA jam sessions and featuring Mary DeBerry (bass/vocals), Dave Cobb (guitar/vocals) Roy Coates (banjo/vocals) and David Angel (mandolin/ vocals). The band sounded real tight at the recent jam and received several compliments.

Country Man Dan

Country Man Dan, has been gigging as a country singer-songwriter in New York



Too Blue, (l to r) Betsy Rome, Joan Harrison, Michael Sassano, and Mark Murphy headline the afternoon of music at River Station.

City and vicinity for nearly a decade. Dan Henderson cut his teeth on rootsy country sounds of George Jones and Conway Twitty while his high school

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Message from the President Redwings and spring

Redwing blackbirds chortled in the wetland last night and crocus and daffodils are up in the garden. Festival time must be near!

At this turn of the season our joy is tempered, though, with the loss of two of our favorite local festivals: Jim and Clareen Lynch's Willow Creek Bluegrass Festival and Bernie & Marlene Carney's Catskill Mountain Bluegrass Festival. We'll miss them both.

The HVBA, however, seems to be stronger than ever. I see lots of new faces at the jam, new bands are forming, and our Fundraiser is coming up on March 26. Thanks to Cold Feat, Country Man Dan, The Wickers Creek Band, No Brakes, Beartracks, and Too Blue for playing for us. You know, they all donate their talent, and we appreciate it.

Stay tuned for potential events in June and September. And, of course, Bluegrass Between the Bridges, a part of The Bardavon's Hudson River Arts Festival, at Waryas Park in Poughkeepsie on Saturday, September 16.

We have received a very generous, anonymous donation from one of our members. Wow! Thank you. You know who you are. Of course, we also appreciate all those who keep their memberships current, too. The \$10 membership is ridiculously low. We know it. It barely covered the cost of sending you this newsletter.

You will notice that we have two advertisements in this issue. Please support the businesses that help underwrite the cost of

Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association

a 501 (c) 3 not for profit arts and educational organization

Jamboree is published four times a year Winter Summer Spring and Fall

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Rob Bradley

the newsletter through ads. Thanks to Heritage Musical Arts Insurance Program and Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camp.

Thanks, too for those who sent cards to Jim Conkin, one of our founding members. He continues his fight. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Jeffrey Anzevino

Sign me up! Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association

Send to: Joyce Cullen, 395 Peekskill Hollow Road, Putnam Valley, NY 10579

_____ Enclosed is \$10 for new membership / renewal
_____ Additional donation
_____ Total

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Hall, NYC 8PM \$37.50 & \$32.50 available thru Ticketmaster or The Town Hall Box Office, 212-840-2824 or www.the-townhall-nyc.org.

Apr 14: Peter Rowan & Tony Rice Quartet at The Egg, Albany, NY 8PM www.theegg.org

Apr 15: Tin Roof at Westchester Bluegrass Club monthly concert & jam series. Lake Purdys Clubhouse, 33 Lake Way, Purdys, NY. \$8.00. Too Blue performs at 9PM; jam session 7PM; open mic. 7PM Bring your instrument! Info: (914)276-2239

Apr 18: Bela Fleck & The Flecktones at The Egg, Albany, NY 7:30PM www.theegg.org

Apr 20: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Arcadia Bluegrass Festival Arcadia, MD

Apr 21: Too Blue at Red Hook Inn, Red Hook, NY 7:30 -11PM. (845) 758-8445

Apr 22: Illrd Tyme Out at The National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA www.bbu.org

Apr 28: Too Blue at Liquid Lunch, a nice listening room with coffees & lite fare. BYOB. 7:30-10:30PM 434 Howe Ave. in downtown Shelton, CT.

May 5: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Good Coffeehouse Music Parlor Brooklyn, NY

May 6: The Wickers Creek Band at Manna Dew Cafe, 54 Main St. (Rt. 44), Millerton, NY 9PM - Midnight

May 6: Hunger Mountain Boys at The Rongovian Embassy, Trumansburg, NY

May 13: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Battery Park City Parks Conservancy, square dance (Don Coy caller) NYC

May 16-18: Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camp preceding Gettysburg Bluegrass Festival, Gettysburg, PA, NY www.drbanjo.com

May 19: Too Blue at Liquid Lunch, 7:30 10:30PM 434 Howe Ave. Shelton, CT.

May 20-21: Apple Blossom Bluegrass Festival at Warwick Valley Winery, Distillery & Orchards with Big Cow 1-5PM Admission \$15, Kids under 5 free, www.vvwinery.com or www.bigcow.com

May 20: BBU Springfest Bluegrass Band Showcase, W Newton, MA www.bbu.org

May 28: The Wickers Creek Band at Muscott Farm Spring Fest, Route 100, Somers, NY - 11:30 am - 2:15 pm (914-864-7282)

May 28: The Wickers Creek Band at the 16th Annual Columbia Land Conservancy Shad Bake and Country Barbecue, Ghent, New York 4:30 - 8PM www.clctrust.org

Jun 9: Beartracks at Wind Gap Bluegrass Festival (201) 584-2324

Jun 10: Beartracks at Sand Road Sugar Camp Bluegrass Festival, Moose Creek, Ontario

Jun 9: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Christopher Run Bluegrass Festival Mineral, VA

Jun 10: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Otter Creek Campground Bluegrass Festival Airville, PA

Jun 11: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Wind Gap Bluegrass Festival Wind Gap, PA

June 16: Hunger Mountain Boys at The Guthrie Center, Great Barrington, MA www.hungermountainboys.com

June 23, 24, and 25: Norwich Family Bluegrass Festival Delaney Brothers with Dan Paisley & The Southern Grass, Dave Nichols & Spare Change, The Hunger Mountain Boys, Atkinson Family, Bill & Maggie Anderson, Smokey Greene, Al & Kathy Bain with host bands The Cabin Fever Band and Doerfel Family Bluegrass at Chenango Fairgrounds, in Norwich, NY www.norwichfamilybluegrass.com or (518) 783-3154

Jun 24: Beartracks at Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival, Weston, VT

Jun 24-25: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Smoked Country Jam Bluegrass Festival McElhattan, PA

Jun 30: Out Among The Stars (OATS) Festival with The Grascals, James King Band, Special Consensus, Dan Paisley & Southern Grass, James Reams and The Barnstormers, Heavy Traffic, Benton, PA www.oatsfestival.com

Jul 7-8: Hunger Mountain Boys at The Prince Edward Island Bluegrass & Old Time Music festival www.hungermountainboys.com

Jul 7-9: Basin Bluegrass Festival, Brandon, VT with Bluegrass Patriots, Carolina Rebels, Big Spike and many more basinbluegrass@yahoo.com

Jul 10-13: Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camp preceding Grey Fox, Copake, NY www.drbanjo.com

Jul 13-16: Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Del McCoury Band, Steve Earle & The Bluegrass Dukes, The Jerry Douglas Band, Tim O'Brien & Cornbread Nation, Railroad Earth, Larry Sparks, Austin Lounge Lizards, Seeldom Scene, Mountain Heart, Tim & Mollie O'Brien, John Cowan, Darrell Scott & Pat Flynn, The Grascals, Danny Paisley & Southern Grass, King Wilkie, Uncle Earl, Crooked Still, Abigail Washburn, Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Campers, Grey Fox Academy for Kids, More Main Stage artists to be announced. Rothvoss Farm, Hillsdale, NY www.greyfoxbluegrass.com

Jul 15-16: James Reams and The Barnstormers at Bluegrass In The Hills - Mickey's Mountain Hopedale, OH

Jul 20-23: Falcon Ridge Folk Festival (at new location) www.falconridgefolk.com

July 22: Too Blue at Olana Historic Site, Greenport NY. 6-8PM

Music and Dance Scene

MAD Scene is provided as a service to HVBA members and bands. Play it safe! Call before you go.

List your event by sending pertinent details to hvba@optonline.net

Ongoing Jams, Dances, Gigs etc.

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month: HVBA Jam at Pirate Canoe Club, Poughkeepsie, NY 6-10 PM (845) 691-6784 or (914) 276-2239

Every Friday: Jammin' at the Legion Hall, Marcellus, NY; (315) 673-2329 or 1844

Every Monday: Bluegrass night at The Parkside Lounge, NYC

Every Monday: The Alphabet City Opry at The Parkside Lounge, Houston St. betw. Ave A & B in Manhattan; 9 PM

Every Monday: Irish Folk Session at The Baggott Inn, Manhattan

Every Monday: Riverbank Banjo Band, Umberto's, Poughkeepsie, NY

First Monday: ABL Jam at The Parting Glass, Saratoga Springs, NY 7PM

2nd Tuesday of Each Month: North East Bluegrass Jam, Malt River Brewing Co., Latham NY, 8 PM, (518) 489-2369

4th Tuesday of Each Month: Jam at Lark Tavern, Albany, NY (518) 489-2369

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

Every Wednesday: Bluegrass & Good Times Jam with host Sheriff Bob at The Baggot Inn, Manhattan 9 PM

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

Every Thursday: Bluegrass Clubhouse with Saturday Night Bluegrass Band at Colony Cafe, Woodstock, NY (but not June 23rd) 7:30PM

1st Saturday of Every Month: Jam (hosted by Wayne Fugate, Suzy Arnowitz & Mike Baglione) at Warwick Valley Winery, Warwick, NY 2-5PM www.vvwinery.com or (845) 258-4858

1st Saturday of Every Month: Jam hosted by Roger Sprung, United Methodist Church, Sandy Hook, CT (203) 426-5243 (NOT IN JULY OR AUGUST)

1st Saturday of Every Month: Open Mic/Bluegrass/Folk Jam; Unitarian Church; Rock Tavern, NY (845) 496-0771

1st Saturday of Every Month: Contra Dance at St. Phillips Church Parish House, Route 9D, Garrison, NY (845) 265-4011, 265-7201, 265-0032

2nd Saturday of Every Month: Walkabout Clearwater, White Plains, NY (845) 242-0374

3rd Sat. of Every Month: Restoration Coffee House Open Mic; Old Dutch Reformed Church, Bloomingburg, NY; 7 PM; (845) 647-6491

3rd Saturday of Every Month: Hudson Valley Folk Guild Poughkeepsie Chapter, (845) 297-6372

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

Every Sunday: Woodstock Jam at Catskill Mtn Pizza 1PM (845) 679-7969

Every Sunday: Bluegrass Session at Paddy O'Reilly's Bar, 4 PM; NYC (718) 884-5721

Every Sunday: Club 9C in Manhattan 5 PM - ???; (212)-358-0048

4th Sunday: Finger Lakes Bluegrass Monthly Jam 2-8 Pm at the Ontario County Arts Council, Canandaigua, NY (716) 396-0087 or 924-3117

More Music!!

Mar 12: Emmy Lou Harris at The Egg, Albany, NY 8PM www.theegg.org

Mar 19: Maura O'Connell at The Towne Crier, Pawling, NY www.townecrier.com

Mar 19: James Reams & The Barnstormers at North Bay Bluegrass Association Havre de Grace, M

Mar 20: The Wickers Creek Band at The Parkside Lounge 317 E. Houston St. NYC 7:30-9:15 pm, admission: \$5.00 Featuring Wayne Fugate on mandolin.

Mar 24: Hunger Mountain Boys at Caffe Lena, Saratoga Springs, NY www.caffelena.com

Mar 24: Hunger Mountain Boys at The Windham, Bellows Falls, VT www.hungermountainboys.com

Mar 26: HVBA Winter Fundraiser, River Station, with Cold Feat, Country Man Dan, Wickers Creek, No Brakes, Beartracks, and Too Blue at River Station, Poughkeepsie, NY Noon to 4PM. Reservations suggested. \$15/\$10 HVBA members (845) 452-9207 info at (845) 691-6784 www.hvbluegrass.org

Mar 31: Hunger Mountain Boys with Lonesome Sisters and Moonshine Creek at Bodles Opera House, Chester, NY www.hungermountainboys.com

Mar 31: The Grascals at The Emelin Theater, Mamaroneck, NY 8PM \$32 www.emelin.org

Mar 31: Buddy Merriam & Back Roads with the Mary Lamont Band at the Inter Media Arts Center (IMAC), Huntington, NY 9PM (631) 549-ARTS www.imactheater.org \$28.50/\$21.00 for LITMA, Bluegrass Club of Long Island and Folk Music Society ofHuntington

Apr 14: Ralph Stanley & King Wilkie at Town

One way to know

Janice MacDaniels

Maybe you were a child or teenager when you took it up. Maybe you were an adult when you learned to play. Perhaps it was the banjo or the mandolin. Perhaps you were called to the guitar, but no matter what the instrument, you learned to play.

You've known the solo side of your music, having never had the advantage of other musicians as friends. All of your non-playing friends think you are good. But those who aren't musicians don't always know good from not good. So you accept their accolades and have some lingering doubts as to your own real skill.

Perhaps you invested in some lessons. Maybe your teacher was an excellent guide - providing all the basics and more in the understanding of your instrument. Perhaps your teacher was somewhat indifferent to actually teaching you, having no real plan to move you along...." So what would you like to learn today?"

Maybe you're self-taught. You've done your practicing, bought those learn to play videos and anchored your musical ship in Mel-Bay. You've downloaded lyrics and chords and tab charts (you actually learned to read tab charts) from the internet - with just a little twang of copyright infringement guilt.

You have a loose-leaf notebook full of your repertoire, dog-eared and marked up. Your collection is on your computer's hard drive and you have a backup disc copy of every song you've ever transcribed and "chord-ed."

You have amassed a significant library of CD's to listen to and learn the styles of your musical interests, your heroes - to flat out copy. You bring your instrument to your



image courtesy of Andy Bickling

friends' houses, to the beach, to the family barbecue. You lead songs at the campground or church.

You sing silly songs for the children. Little kids think you're great, but you've never really been tested in your own ability. You just don't know. You think you have a level of some mastery but you just don't know. Mostly, you've been playing in your bedroom or your den.

Some, in your family, let you know how they feel about your playing.... "Hey, can't you play that thing somewhere else, we're trying to watch TV, here".... so you remove yourself to the basement and an audience of one sleeping dog.

One day, you find out about that open jam and take a chance stepping out of your comfort zone. You find out that you can

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HVBA News Briefs

Grascals close out Emelin

The Grascals close out the The Emelin Theater's season on March 30. This will be fresh off a show on The Grand Ole Opry on march 11. Tickets at www.emelin.org or visit <http://grascals.com>

Pete Wernick's Bluegrass Jam Camps

Dr. Banjo is offering two Bluegrass Jam Camps this season immediately preceding a festival near you: Gettysburg from May 16-18 and Grey Fox from July 10-13. Do yourself a solid and plan your vacation around one of these great camps. See next page for more details or visit www.drbanjo.com

Ralph Stanley/King Wilkie in NYC

Ralph Stanley & King Wilkie will play NYC's Town Hall on Friday, April 14 at 8PM. Tickets are available thru Ticketmaster or The Town Hall Box Office, 212-840-2824 or www.the-townhall-nyc.org.

Homespun Sale

Homespun Tapes' newest catalog offers discounts on many of their instructional materials. Except for their most recent releases, many products are on sale for \$5 or \$10 off. For example the Level 2 Bluegrass Jamming DVDs are on sale for \$24.95. Note: The recently released Intermediate Bluegrass Jam Session is \$29.95. Check it out at www.homespuntapes.com

Takin' the Back Roads

Buddy Merriam and Back Roads is back from their tour of Ireland, England & Scotland,

Will Solomon reported that the band toured for 23 days with around 19 shows. He was singing and playing with Ernie Sykes, Jr. (bass), Gary Oleyar (fiddle), Buddy Merriam (mandolin), and Ireland's own Mel Correy (banjo). The band played theatres and

pubs, appeared on two BBC radio spots, met and played with local musicians. "It was magic," Will says!!

He also sends a shout out of "Thank you" to Mike Burns for the loaner Calton Case, which kept his guitar safe during the journey.



Buddy Merriam and Back Roads

Now Buddy Merriam and Back Roads is back home and looking forward to picking & singing for their US fans! Anchoring a busy schedule is their regular gig at the CheckMate Inn in Setauket, NY, his home sweet home on the first Tuesday night of each month for the past six years.

On March 31 Buddy Merriam & Back Roads will be teaming up with the Mary Lamont Band in concert at the Inter Media Arts Center (IMAC), at one of Long Islands top music venues in Huntington. The Mary Lamont Band features Mary on lead vocals and Jim Marchese on lead guitar playing Country & Western and originals www.marylammont.com

"Blue Grass Time" is back on it's regular time slot after the basketball season- Wed. 6:30 - 8PM on WUSB 90.1 FM in Stony Brook or live on the internet www.wusb.fm

continued on page 6

CD Preview

Live from Vail Leavitt Music Hall

Buddy Merriam & Back Roads

A package in my mailbox from Jerry Oland brightened a recent snowy day. In the package I found a silver CD and a note-- here was a preview of Buddy Merriam's yet to be released live CD recorded at his 25th Anniversary show last November 19. With snow falling and nowhere to go I sat in an easy chair and absorbed an entire concert--intro to encore.

In contrast to the many Jamboree-reviewed CDs picked from the branches of Bluegrass' family tree, Buddy's is a knot from the trunk: pure, unadulterated Bluegrass. Biscuit kickin' Bluegrass. Yes, a few finely-polished country chestnuts punctuate the show, such as Lefty's *I Love You 1000 Ways* and Hank's *Your Cheatin' Heart*, the lion's share of this disc is ringing banjo, sawing fiddle and the harmony singing that defines the genre.

To be sure, the CD starts with an intro by Chris Laporta (WUSB, 90.1FM), "a wonderful bluegrass band that stands for respect for their friends and fans all over the world. I want to thank them and what they've done to help Bluegrass music and I'll always be their friend." Those words were written from the heart of the late Bill Monroe, the father of Bluegrass music. Sort of like having your patriotism endorsed by George Washington.

Although the singing is outstanding, my two favorites are instrumentals: *Ashokan Farewell*, mournfully fiddled by Gary Oleyar, *Shenandoah Breakdown*, featuring Oland's banjo, and every guitar break by Bob Harris, who formerly played for Vassar Clements. He's on fire! Bob is featured on *Goin' Down the Road Feelin' Bad*, a tune where the entire band shines. I first heard that tune by Delaney and Bonnie with Eric Clapton, back when I thought Bluegrass was turf from Kentucky and thought Lefty and Hank were baseball players.

Ernie Sykes' does a fine job singing *Another Place, Another Time* and again Jerry Oland



Show intro by Chris Laporta
Back Roads Breakdown
Deep River
We Live in Two Different Worlds
Mr. Somers
Ernie Sykes Intro
Another Place, Another Time
Jerry Oland Intro
Shenandoah Breakdown
Going Down The Road Feeling Bad
Gary Oleyar Intro
Ashoken Farewell
Cathy Devine Intro
My Heart's Own Love
Twenty Five Year Award Ceremony
Mason's Restaurant
Ernie talks about recording
with Leon Rhodes
I Love you 1000 Ways
Love Please Come Home
Lucy Clark Intro
Cheatin' Heart
Smoke That Cigarette
Blue Eyes From Heaven
Thanks to Audience
Close Out Show
Josh n' Cody
These Hands

rises to the occasion with some tasteful backup.

Of course, Buddy's mandolin is a reflection of the master himself--Mr. Monroe.

So sit back, relax and enjoy! A bluegrass concert in the comfort of your home or car. The recording and mixing are of the quality normally found on studio CDs. And the musicianship what you'd expect by Buddy and his merry band.

www.backroadsbluegrass.com

News Briefs

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Tim O'Brien is an icon in American acoustic music, including folk, bluegrass and old-time. As a founding member of the legendary bluegrass act Hot Rize, O'Brien honed his chops as the quintessential front man and entertainer. Equally respected as a songwriter, his songs have been cut by the likes of The Dixie Chicks, Garth Brooks, Kathy Mattea and Nickel Creek. O'Brien has gone on to lead his own band as well as several side projects and has become a staple at summer festivals across the US and in Europe. In addition O'Brien has lent his voice and direction as producer to many young acoustic groups, including Sugar Hill Record's Duhks. More information on O'Brien is available at www.sugarhillrecords.com/publicity, or at www.timobrien.net.

Bluegrass Junction

Dick Saylor wrote us to say he likes to play local bluegrass bands on his Saturday afternoon's (1 to 4 PM) radio show on WDVR-FM in Sargentsville, NJ. He plays the old traditional country and bluegrass, thus the program name "Bluegrass Junction." That's where old country and old bluegrass meet. 89.7 is the frequency, or you may listen on the www.wdvr.com

Each hour on the half hour, right after the station grants, he posts a "Bluegrass Bulletin Board" to update his fans on upcoming shows. If you've got some gigs booked, drop him a line so he can pass the word on to his fans. He'll mention your band and where you are playing. The event must be an event open to the public, and country or bluegrass genre.

His email is rjsaylor58@yahoo.com. Visit his website at www.geocities.com/dick_saylor and has a link to WDVR-FM.

One Way to Know

continued from page 3

keep up. Maybe you're not a "hot shot" but you have your own style and there is a place for you to fit in. This can be a place for you to learn, to stretch and grow.

Then one day, you're out at the mall or a coffee shop and you see someone from the jam night, one of the leaders, someone you recognize and respect as a musician. You exchange glances and smiles and she says to you, "You look familiar. Do I know you?" You respond, "Yes, we've met and played together at the jam". Then, she says, "Oh, I remember. You play very well." Then you know.

HVBA Jam Sessions

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

of each month

Pirate Canoe Club, Po'keepsie, NY
Slow Jam starts at 6PM
Jam ends at 10 PM

\$3 admission

(845) 691-6784 for more info



www.hvbluegrass.org

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“It was exactly what I needed! I will now have the courage to take my banjo to jam sessions.”

- You will be jamming the first morning!
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DrBanjo.com for camp details/registration and full listing of Jam Camps nationwide. Discounts available.

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MAY 16-18 pre- Gettysburg BG Festival
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ENROLLMENT LIMITED

COPAKE, NY

JULY 10-13 pre- Grey Fox BG Festival
9-5 Mon.-Tues., 9-6 Wed. (with long midday break), 9-3:30 Thurs. • Copake Grange Hall

DRBANJO.COM

TWO NEW DVD'S RELEASED!

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Intermediate Jamming

Medium tempos, two soloing opportunities per song, 22 songs with lyric book as well as many higher level jamming pointers.

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News Briefs

continued from page 4

Doc Marshalls

The Doc Marshalls just played on the "Heartland Hayride" radio and internet broadcast on WDVR in west NJ and will be flying down to Austin in a few weeks to play at the South by Southwest Americana Music trade show.

The Doc's will be playing a dance in Ossining in late March and has dates in the Hudson Valley in the summer. Check back at www.docmarshalls.com as info becomes available.

Barnstormin'

James Reams & The Barnstormers reports that their CD/DVD combo *Troubled Times*, was included on the list of Cybergrass' readers' top 10 CDs of 2005. The list also included the new albums by Phil Leadbetter, Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Larry Sparks, and others. Go to www.cybergrass.com and see the other six for yourself! Cybergrass is the internet bluegrass magazine with 2,473 registrants and yearly total page views of 498,407.

Getting up on the Tin Roof

Tin Roof is about to begin the recording of their first CD with a targeted release date of May, 2006.

They made their NY debut at the Parkside Lounge to a very nice (large) crowd that included several HVBA members who made the long journey to the lower east side to support the band. It was a really great night in spite of Mike and Suzy making a wrong turn that took them to Brooklyn! Look for them again at The Parkside, perhaps in June. If you'd like info on this or any of their other shows and aren't already on their e-mail list, drop Wayne a note at wjf@frontiernet.net

Tin Roof made another debut opening for Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart at the Towne Crier to an almost completely sold out house. They got tremendous support from HVBA members, other good friends and family members. The set went over so well that they were called back for an encore and will be invited back to play at the Towne Crier soon ... this time as the "headline" act!!

Tin Roof will also be appearing on the Radio! Listen for them on April 12th at 8PM on Dancin' On The Air on WAMC 90.9 Albany (or www.wamc.org). The show, hosted by Jay Ungar and Molly Mason is performed (and broadcast) live to an audience at The Linda Norris Auditorium in Albany, NY. Admission is only \$5 and the band would sure love to see some friendly HVBA faces in the crowd. "Dancing on the Air" is described on it's website as taking pride in showcasing "exceptional talent in a wide variety of idioms. The music runs the gamut, and it always runs deep. It's is a show brimming with spontaneity, pure joy and great music. In our listening area, you can get pick the show up on WAMC.

Other upcoming gigs include "The Bluegrass Clubhouse" in Purdy's NY on Saturday, April 15th, "The Apple Blossom Bluegrass Festival" on May 20th and 21st.

Handman, Fugate & Warner

Rachel Handman, Wayne Fugate & Vin Warner appeared as the opening act for the "Festival of Guitars" at Music at the Mission in West Milford, NJ. The set was enthusiastically received and they had a blast, getting to "stretch" by trying out some new things! The headliners, Jack Lawrence (of Doc Watson fame), Clay Hess (of Ricky Skaggs' Kentucky Thunder fame) and John

continued on next page

continued from previous page

dancing. But her true downfall occurred when she met Peter and was introduced to bluegrass. She's still in recovery, but the prognosis is good.

George Morrow lives and works in Hastings-on Hudson where he designs educational software. George got roped into playing guitar with the Wickers Creek Band about ten years ago, after he met Peter and Charlene in their church choir.

Rob Bradley is a professor of mathematics and computer science and lives in Garden City. A native of Montreal, Rob has been singing and playing bluegrass, folk, French Canadian and Irish music in the Hudson Valley for many years. He is also the webmaster of www.wickerscreekband.com.

No Brakes

No Brakes is a local, Dutchess County band with longtime friends Frank Kara (mandolin) and Eric Spaulding (guitar) forming the core. Gary DiGiovanni plays banjo and Doug Marcus plays bass. The band has played many gigs over the years, has many fans and is a perennial HVBA favorite.

Beartracks

All the way from Plattsburgh, NY (Mapquest says 239 miles away!) comes Beartracks, a family band featuring brother and sister Tom Venne (guitar) and Julie Hogan (bass), with cousin Junior Barber on resophonic guitar. Barber is well known for his work with The Gibson Brothers.

The trio was formed early 2004 and has been clawing its way up to the top of the Roots Country, Bluegrass and Americana scene. Julie and Tom's sibling vocals define the group's sound, with a healthy dose of Junior's tasteful slide work thrown in.

They are a very special act to watch and the response from fans regarding their stage



Beartracks

shows has been extremely positive. Their music is the kind that makes everyone feel good! The band has already been booked at several festivals throughout eastern North America. www.beartracksband.com

Too Blue

Too Blue beautifully weaves bluegrass and swing genres around the voices of Betsy Rome (guitar) and Joan Harrison (banjo). Mike Sassano (mandolin) and Mark Murphy (bass) round out the group. They will be performing at the Wind Gap Festival in PA, the Hartford RiverFest, and will be opening for Rhonda Vincent at the Podunk Bluegrass Festival in East Hartford.

The band recently performed at the Joe Val Indoor Bluegrass Festival, hosted by the Boston Bluegrass Union.

Too Blue's CD, *A Little On The Blue Side* is an international sensation on the airwaves in Ireland, Sweden, Holland, Italy, France, and Australia. But we love locals love Too Blue, too. WKZE listeners selected the CD as one of the 10 best independent CD's of 2002. www.toobluemusic.com

Fundraiser @ River Station

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mates were digging Pink Floyd's "The Wall."

His website, www.ohdannydontdothat.com features tracks from his 1999 album *Ten Songs & A Prayer*. One of his favorite tunes is



Country Man Dan

Sandringham Song, about a small business in a community in Newfoundland, a place Henderson has visited all his life. The tune got air-time in lite-medium rotation during the morning homegrown show that that summer on the major Country Station KIXX Country and still gets requested and played occasionally.

The Wickers Creek Band

This band hails from lower Westchester County, near where Wickers Creek flows into the mighty Hudson. They describe themselves as "amateur musicians" (which means they have another way to make a living) and, apart from the band, have active involvements in various other musical pursuits. They pride

themselves on the fact that they reflect and respect the history and tradition surrounding the origins of old-time and bluegrass music, but also to incorporate a lot of the wonderful developments that have evolved over the years.

Traditional American string band music began as a community effort and an expression of community values, and we feel very fortunate to be able to have so much fun doing the music in the context of a band comprised first and foremost of good friends.

Peter Paden, a resident of Dobbs Ferry, practices environmental and land use law in New York City. He has been playing traditional music since he was a teenager in



The Wickers Creek Band

St. Paul, Minnesota, where, to their mother's eternal frustration, he and his brother Don whiled away countless hours exploring the virtues of old-time and bluegrass music.

Charlene Paden, an environmental consultant, grew up in Cortland, New York before moving to the Hudson Valley to teach high school French. She became interested in New England fiddling through contra

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News Briefs

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Garron (of Jerry Jeff Walker & John Denver fame) were amazing. They hosted a guitar clinic on the afternoon of the show that was attended by 40 guitar players who came from far and wide! The show itself was just a few seats shy of a sellout and the folks in attendance were treated to a display of guitar mastery that was entertaining as it was technically brilliant.

Wayne's World

Wayne will be studying jazz improvisation for the second year running this summer at Berklee College of Music.

In the "its a small world department" Wayne Fugate & David Angel are both set to take delivery on some octave mandolins that they both custom ordered from the same source, Phil Crump Guitars in CA. Each ordered their instrument without the knowledge that the other had ordered one too. This is the second time this has happened, the first "collision of mandolin cosmic consciousness" came when both ordered mandolins from Lawrence Smart. Beware the low voice of the "monster octave mandolins of doom" coming to an HVBA jam near you soon!

Streever in the Depot

Guitarist Roy Streever joined Oxford Depot early in 2005 as the band re-organized. In addition to Roy, other current band members include Ed Ackerly (banjo); Richie Walter (mandolin); Carl Kubie (fiddle); and Leon Swyka (bass). www.oxforddepotbluegrass.com

Roy also performs with Leon Swyka and Kevin Monahan (mandolin) as Code Blue.

Lessons Online

Rick Williams is offering free online music lessons. He is the author of "Jam Tunes" and teacher at Guitar House of Tulsa, Oklahoma for over 17 years.

The tunes are laid out in the same way all of the tunes in his "Jam Tunes" books are done. Each tune has three tracks. The 1st track is melody with band @ 106 bpm. The 2nd track is no melody with band @ 106 bpm. The 3rd track is full band, 3 times through @ 170 bpm. Remember to practice your rhythm playing as well as the picking, you're going to need it. "

The tunes are in MP3 format and the text and music is in PDF format. The MP3s are as small as he could make them without losing sound quality. The lessons are designed for intermediate players for both mandolin and guitar. All of the lessons are designed for private/home study.

Contact Rick@bluegrassbooksonline.com

Tim O'Brien earns Grammy

Acoustic music legend Tim O'Brien was awarded his first Grammy for "Best Traditional Folk Album" for his release *Fiddler's Green* in the 48th Annual Grammy awards. Nominated along side The Chieftains, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Tom Paxton and Jo-El Sonnier, O'Brien stated upon his win that he was "very honored and had learned a lot from all of his fellow nominees." Of the emotion felt on his first win, O'Brien said "...it's tingles and tears and hugs to my wife Kit every 15 minutes." *Fiddler's Green* was one half of a double release (along with *Cornbread Nation*) in the fall of 2005 for O'Brien and roots labels Howdy Skies and Sugar Hill Records.



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Calling all fiddlers



The Kurpil Family Fiddlers featuring father Sam and daughters Cindy and Christine

Paul Lounsbury

Jeffrey Anzevino

The 12th Old Time Fiddlers' Gathering will be held on Sunday May 7th at 2PM at the Neversink Fire Hall on Route 55 in Neversink, NY.

Individuals or groups may sign up for a 20 minute slot to perform on stage, and of course there will be many opportunities in the various rooms in the firehouse to participate in jam sessions. Every performance slot is filled each year. If you need an accompanist, it's usually easy to meet a helpful musician join you on stage.

The music is not limited to strictly fiddles. Other instruments are welcome as long as the music fits within the primary focus of "fiddle music."

A similar format to previous gatherings will be used. Upon arrival, each performer or group signs up for a 20 minute slot. A full sound system, complete with stage monitors, is provided.

A table in the lobby is available for CD or other music-related sales by performers. Flea market activity is not permitted.

The organizers try to wrap up at 6 PM, but sometimes can't get done 'til 7. Musicians and their immediate families are not charged admission. Great food is served at the kitchen.



Paul Lounsbury

Sixteen-year old fiddler Erin Slaver with her father, John

HVBA favorites No Brakes have performed in the past, as well as other notable local musicians, such as Steve Jacobi and Fiddling Around, Oxford Depot, Earl Pardini, Andy Kelder, Pedahr Halvorsen, Jim Rautner, Chestnut Creek, Laura Kortright, and Jim Rauter.



Paul Lounsbury

No Brakes, with extra special guest Jennifer Kara on fiddle

The proceeds from the event are donated to a great cause--the Sullivan County Pregnancy Support Center in Liberty. The center is devoted to providing support and assistance to women, mothers, and their babies in Sullivan County.

For more information, folks can call Paul at 845-985-2923 or send a note to paul@lounsbury@yahoo.com.



Paul Lounsbury

Hilton and Stella Kelly, of Fleischmanns with unidentified bass player. Hilton is 80 years old and busy playing gigs each year.