

THE SONOMA COUNTY FOLK SOCIETY

September -
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<http://www.socofoso.com>

Golden Old Time recap.

The first California Bluegrass Association's 2009 Old Time Music Camp Out was a long time coming and it worked! Carl Pagter, Gene Bach, the late Darrell Johnston and myself attempted to do this in 2005 and '06 and were not as successful as we had hoped. However this year, there were some things that were done differently by the CBA that contributed to a much improved outcome.

The original Golden Old Time Festival group made the mistake of approaching an Old Time event with a Bluegrass Festival mentality. We spent money on a stage and Old Time acts and all the accompanying expenses including motel rooms etc. Most of the time there was only a small fraction of the attendees watching the shows on the stage.

We then scheduled a band contest, which we hoped would be a popular part of the event. Not many bands entered despite the rules allowing bands to be formed at the festival among friends. As far as the stage portion of the contest was concerned, it was still sparsely attended. The workshops were not well attended either which was also notable. What did work the best were the square dances!

We even had it wrong as far as T-shirt sales were concerned. Our T-shirt person brought sizes geared more to the Fathers Day Festival. In the end we had a couple of boxes of X and double X T-shirts left over as most of the festival patrons were much younger than the CBA Father's Day Festival attendees.

An Old Time event was clearly going to have to be different if it was to be successful. So what we planned right from the start this time was, we found a new venue, the Mendocino County Fairgrounds in Boonville that was both rural and still close enough to the Bay Area that we would draw enough people that could handle at least a three hour drive. The event was then trimmed down to the basics. A camp out, picking and a square dance.

I can only begin to tell you about the dozens of pickers who came up to me personally and thanked me for using this format and asked hopefully, if we would resist the temptation to expand the event into a festival. Well, if it's not broken and it isn't, then we don't need to fix it. The format will remain the same.

What we will focus on is improving the workshops, expanding them to include Friday and possibly expanding to a four day event.

Thanks again to all of the volunteers from the Berkeley Old Time Music Convention, The Sonoma County Folk Society and the CBA. Hopefully some of you bluegrassers who like to pick can come out and enjoy a weekend of Old Time Pick'n next year. As soon as we have the dates for next years event, we will let you all know!

Mark Hogan



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Notes from our President, Steve DeLap

'NEVER SEEN ANY- THING JUST LIKE THIS!'

Impressions of the Golden Old- Time Music Campout

In August the Folk Society completed their second terrific venture with the California Bluegrass Association, by name "The Golden Old-Time Music Campout." The first thing to note about the Campout is that it is not a festival. There is no stage; there are no "acts". There is no schedule to speak of and though there was a series of workshops on guitar, fiddle, banjo, singing and clogging, they were consecutive, not piled on top of one another, so that one could actually attend all of them. Music festivals usually try to have two or three good workshops going at once while your favorite act is taking their only turn on stage, making a choice of activity annoying and difficult.

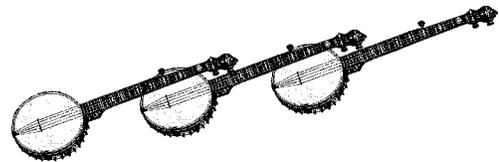
The toughest choice at this campout was whether to go eat, go to a workshop, or just stay in camp and keep playing Old-Time music. Most attendees usually chose the last option. Incidentally it is "Old-Time Music", not "Old Timey Music". That last term is reserved for producers of television shows featuring hay bales and buxom Hollywood models with their hair in pigtailed and dressed in shorty overalls.)

The lack of stages, sound systems and schedules should not imply a lack of great music. At almost any time of the day or night, anywhere groups of two to ten or more campers were engaged in producing the most incredible sounds. Almost everybody came to "pick", meet old friends and find new ones, learn new tunes and play old ones, create new band combinations or resurrect old ones. A group from Maine spent the weekend singing Folk songs of all sorts and kinds. Lots of Old-Time fiddlers and banjo players kept things lively. A fair number of bass and guitar players held up the bottom end. This first (hopefully annual) campout drew folks from Ohio, Maine, the Virginias and, of course, Oregon and Washington as well as the Bay Area.

One scheduled event occurred Saturday night in the form of a Square Dance. This was not your average "civilized" Square Dance where the guys wear cowboy getups and the women wear frilly skirts and dresses and only recorded music is used so that everyone knows where the steps go. This dance had live Old-Time bands,

callers who lined out the dances then called throughout the dance and a group of dancers who valued camaraderie over propriety and fun over precision. By the time the dance was over we'd gone through over twenty dances, two bands and four callers. Still, there were some dancers left clamoring for more. We finally got to bed at midnight and went to sleep to the sounds of more fine Old Time music from the camp next door.

All in all, this event was a tremendous success. The venue, while hot during the day, was perfect for bringing folks together and keeping all activities on site and convenient. There was plenty of water, bathrooms and even showers for those who needed them. The odds look good for doing this again next year. While players have more fun than anyone, there's no problem with just coming to listen and enjoy the wonderful music.



It's time again for...

HARDLY STRICTLY BLUEGRASS 2009

**October 2nd, 3rd and 4th
at Speedway Meadows
Golden Gate Park**

**There are so many great
people performing and too
many to list here!**

**If you've been there you
know, if you haven't then GO!**

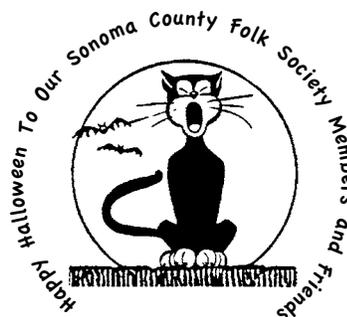
For details www.strictlybluegrass.com/2009/info.

The Last Record Store
1899-A Mendocino Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401



Phone (707) 525-1963

WWW.THE-LAST-RECORD-STORE.COM



The Sonoma County EarleFest

A Celebration of Americana Music

A benefit for the Earle Baum Center, serving people with sight loss

Saturday, September 26, 2009

4539 Occidental Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Doors open at noon to 6:30pm

Backstory (Sara Winge Duo)

Old Jawbone

Solid Air

Townes Van Zandt Tribute

Jam Session

Houston Jones

Trailer Park Rangers

The Rhythm Rangers

Johnny Rawls & The Blues Defenders

Tickets are \$15 per person in advance,
\$18 at the door

For tickets and details, contact
The Earle Baum Center (707) 523-3222
Online at www.earlefest.com



15th Annual
SEBASTOPOL CELTIC
WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL
A Hazy Line No Order
Sebastopol Community Cultural Center
September 25th - 27th

CDanin Hayes & Dennis Cahill
Old Blind Dogs
Amanda Fraser & Natalie Haas + Bekka Beyond
Alison Brown Quartet w/ Joe Carven + Chris Connell
CDolly's Revenge w/ CDotun Sawley + Grottohouse
Apple Tree CDance + Healy Irish Dancers w/Dedrick
Sarah Rose and Dancers Scottish Dancers w/Alita Rose

Deavish + Viscen
w/ CDine CDanzhall
& Daniel Anger

INFO: SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CENTER (707) 523-3222: www.earlefest.com

A sad farewell to our friend Mike Seeger

Folk musician Mike Seeger, a founding member of the New Lost City Ramblers, passed away on Friday, August 7 at the age of 75. Mike was half-brother to Pete Seeger and brother to Peggy Seeger. He was an essential part of the folk music movement of the mid-twentieth century, spending a good part of his life collecting folk music and making it known to a wider audience. He will be greatly missed.

FOLK NOTES

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Sonoma County Folk Society
P O Box 9659 Santa Rosa CA 95405-9659
For information, call 707-542-3798
<http://www.socofoso.com>

**DR. ELMO & WILD BLUE
CD RELEASE CONCERT**
Wednesday, September 9th, 7:30 pm

The Throckmorton Theater
142 Throckmorton Avenue
Mill Valley CA
(415) 383-9600

**Dr. Elmo & Wild Blue,
Marin County's premier
bluegrass band, will be
celebrating the release of their
new CD titled Wild Blue Grass**

Other

Upcoming events...

Cheryl Wheeler w/ Kenny White
Saturday September 19th 8:00 pm
Sebastopol Community Center
390 Morris St. Sebastopol

Humor, wit, incisive songwriting and beautiful vocals with two brilliant singer-songwriters...

Tickets/Info: 707-823-1511 www.cumuluspresents.com

The Berkeley Old Time Music Convention

September 9-13, 2009

Please contact the website for all of the details on this huge event at <http://berkeleyoldtimemusic.org/>

Blue & Lonesome

Bluegrass with some of the Bay Area's finest musicians; Ed Neff on mandolin, Paul Shelasky on fiddle, Mike Wilhoite on guitar, Larry Cohea on banjo and Jeff King on bass.

Always at the Willowbrook Ale House,
Thursdays, 6:30 - 10:00 pm

3600 Petaluma Blvd North, Petaluma,



Kevin Russell presents..

Saturday September 12th Laughing Gravy performs at The 13th Annual Kendall-Jackson Heirloom Tomato Festival, 11am - 4pm

Saturday September 12th Under the Radar plays at The Aquas Café (189 H St., Petaluma) from 7pm to 9pm. The usual mix of newgrass, swing, blues & folk.

Friday September 18th The Gonzalo Bergara Quartet
Elegant gypsy jazz by this artist many herald as "the new Django".

Here is a definite NOT TO BE MISSED show! If you love passionate gypsy-inspired melodies wedded to a south American rhythm you really should not miss this show by the jaw-dropping, awe-inspiring star of this year's Djangofest,

8:00pm, doors at 7:30

The Sebastopol Community Center
425 Morris St., Sebastopol

For details: 707-824-1858 or krussellmft@aol.com

Ukulele Undercurrents...

Hi Ukers- The Wine Country 'Ukulele Festival will run from Oct. 9 - 11. Too many performers, events, vendors and workshops to list here. Their website is: www.winecountryukefest.wordpress.com/2009-festival
Plenty of opportunities to listen, look and jam.
Mark your calendars and make your reservations.
Here's an excerpt from the Wine Country Uke Festival website.



"Aloha Kakou E komo mai"

Hello. And welcome!

There are so many exciting things happening with this year's festival, I hardly know where to begin. We better start with the dates. It's official. The 2009 (and 2nd annual) Wine Country 'Ukulele Festival will run from Oct. 9 - 11. So far we have the following instructors and performers lined up: James Hill, Ralph Shaw, Victoria Vox, Kimo Hussey, Faith Ako, Steven Espaniola, the Dominator, Michelle Kiba, Liko Puha, the Makai Gents, and I'm sure we'll be adding more.

We also have two Napa Valley wineries on board, Judd's Hill and Flora Springs, both with a couple of 'ukulele enthusiasts on staff. ('Ukuleles pair very well, it turns out, with most wines.) I've got a couple of other wineries on the line who also want to be a part of this, so stay tuned. We're still finalizing the different events and sorting out who's going to be where and when."

Final schedules and line-ups for the 3 days are posted on the website. Come share the aloha!

Happy strummin'



The Freight & Salvage Coffee House

The Freight has moved to

2020 Addison Street. Berkeley CA

September

12th, Tom Paxton

22nd, Peggy Seeger

23rd, Dr. K's Home Grown Roots Revue:

Blue & Lonesome, Mighty Crows, Homespun Rowdy

October

2nd, Tony Marcus, songs of the American songbook with unbeatable swing.

11th, Bill Staines, the quintessential folk performer . . . a magical blend of gentle humor and musical excellence

For details: (510) 644-2020 or www.thefreight.org/

Acoustic Music Jams :

it's always fun to make your own music!



• **THE BLACK ROSE PUB**

(formally the Rose Pub)

2074 Armory Drive, Santa Rosa.

All JAM SESSIONS are now being conducted on Wednesday nights, starting at 8:00.

◇ French and European jam, first Wednesday

◇ Slow Celtic jam, second Wednesday

◇ Traditional Irish jam, third Wednesday

◇ Old Timey Bluegrass jam, fourth Wednesday

For more details, please call Don Coffin at: 707-995-0658

• **THE REDWOOD CAFE**

8240 Old Redwood Hwy, Cotati

◇ The Celtic Sessions, led by Janette Duncan and Roxanne Oliva

Second Sunday of the month from 4 to 6 pm.

For details call: 585-3138

• **MAIN ST. STATION RESTAURANT**

16280 Main, Guerneville

◇ Slow Celtic Sessions

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7 to 9 PM,

For details call: 869-0501

• **COFFEE CATZ**

6761 Sebastopol Ave, Sebastopol,

On Hwy 12 at the Train Station, east end of town.

Check it out every Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5 pm.

Everyone is welcome at this CBA hosted event!

Mark Hogan is a great host.

◇ Old-time, bluegrass, old country.

For more information, contact Mark Hogan at:

hogiemoon@comcast.net or call 829-8012

• **ACE IN THE HOLE CIDER PUB**

Corner of Hwy 116 at Graton Road.

◇ Open Mic on Monday night, hosted by Steve Wharton

For more information call 829-1223

• **MURPHY'S IRISH PUB**

464 First St Sonoma

◇ First Sunday of the month, celtic jam

For details call 935-0660

• **GOSPEL MUSIC JAM**

Bluegrass & Old Time Music

The 4th Sunday of each month, 2:00 p.m.- 5:00 pm.

Sebastopol Christian Church, the corner of Bodega

Avenue and Jewell Street across from fire station and Ives

Park. Hosted by Mike Davitz, mikedavitz@comcast.net or

(707) 527-9637 for details. Bring acoustic instruments

and your favorite Gospel songs to sing.

Singer's Circle...

◇ Meets 4th Friday of most months. For information call Dennis Drury at 829-0883

Dance Dance Dance...

• **DANCE AWAY**

◇ Contra and English dancing every weekend! Live music, lessons and callers. For detailed info contact: NBCDS

Dance Line (707) 527-9794 or

www.nbcds.org or email: info@nbcds.org

• **APPLE TREE MORRIS**

◇ Weekly in Sebastopol. Information: 829-3478 or

kalia@sbcglobal.net



Sonoma County Folk Society Membership Application

Fill out and return with annual dues: - \$10.00 Individual - \$15.00 Family Make checks payable to SoCoFoSo.

Mail to: SoCoFoSo, PO Box 9659 Santa Rosa CA 95405

(Please print)

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Phone

EMail

comments:

Contributions to the Sonoma County Folk Society are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

On the Air KRCB:



Our own NPR Station at 91.1 or 90.9 FM

Great programs, some of particular interest to folkies...

◇ Mondays: 8:00 to 10:00 PM

• **Your Average Abalone**, hosted by Johnny Bazzano, 1st and 3rd.

• **The Fiddling Zone**, hosted by Gus Garelick, Old Time fiddling, Bluegrass, Cajun, Swing, Klezmer and more 2nd and 4th.

◇ Tuesdays: 10:00 to Midnight

• **Crossing Borders**, World music

◇ Thursdays: 8:00 to 10:00 PM

• **Freight Train Boogie**, hosted by Bill Frater, Roots, Country, Folk, Blues, Rock etc.

◇ Saturdays: Noon to 1:00 PM

• **Thistle and Shamrock**, Celtic music

◇ Saturdays 1:00 to 5:00 PM

• **Our Roots Are Showing**, hosted by (*alternating hosts*) Robin Pressman and Steve DeLap. Folk, Acoustic, Singer-songwriter, Blues, Bluegrass

On the Air KRSH:

95.9FM

◇ **"Krush Uncorked"** Sundays 8-11 AM. Singer-songwriter acoustic and unplugged music with Bob Sala

"Krush Americana" **NOW** on Monday evenings 7:00 to 10:00 PM. Old n' new twang, Country, Americana and Roots Music... with Bill Bowker



Lessons • Lessons • Lessons

◇ **Fiddle Lessons:** Contra and Square dance styles, Celtic, Scandia and other International styles by ear and reading with music theory, Janette Duncan 707-570-2745

◇ **Lessons in guitar, old time banjo, piano and beginning accordion.** With Ingrid Noyes, in Marshall, on the shores of Tomales Bay. For details: 415-663-1342

or e-mail ingrid10@sonic.net

◇ **Kay Eskenazi** loves to teach guitar, Folk, Blues, Jazz, Bossa Nova, Fingerstyle, Celtic and Classical styles.

707/869-9642 service@WomensHeartsAndHands.com

◇ **Music lessons at your location:** note reading, theory, piano instruction for all ages. Laurie 707-869-9230

◇ **Steve Wharton** teaches Bluegrass: banjo, Old Time banjo, Dulcimer, and Autoharp 707-887-2518.

◇ **Learn to play Polish fiddle**

Nanette Fynan 707-569-0565

◇ **Play the String Bass:** lessons in Sebastopol

Bill Amatneek 707-824-8084



Sonoma County Folk Society
PO Box 9659
Santa Rosa CA 95405-9659

• **NEXT DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES** •
October 10th
To Steve: stevhobluegrass@yahoo.com



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