



A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

Notes from Board President, Ron Bohigian

Trying and Learning New Things



I think back over the years about new endeavors. There was bicycling—learning about all the components, distance training, roadmaps, fixing flats out in the boondocks. Then came flyfishing—learning about the equipment, how to cast, present the fly, detect the strike of the fish, fighting the fish and safely releasing it. These learning experiences all happened in my youth. It’s what young people are supposed to do—learn. Then, we are advised to keep learning as we grow older. Learning keeps us invigorated and gives us purpose in our “golden” years.

At age fifty-nine, I dared to start learning to play the fiddle. It was so much more than just me, the fiddle, the bow and the music. It was the people that became central to my social life. I wonder, “What would I be doing today, if it weren’t for music?” I can’t imagine it being any better.

A few months ago, my neighbor **John Baker** was walking out to his car in a baseball uniform. John’s about my age. Playing hardball. When I asked him, he told me that he was on a team in a “seniors” league. I thought this was really a cool idea and I told him that. He suggested that we go out and throw the ball around sometime. We did. Then he suggested that I get involved and that everyone had a really good time and that winning wasn’t the most important thing about playing. I expressed my concern that my body wouldn’t hold up to the stresses of throwing, batting, fielding, and fast running. I confessed that I was the kid who never went out for Little League and when I tried out for Babe Ruth League, I didn’t make the team. And when I tried out for my junior high school team, I didn’t make it. And when I had the audacity to try out for my high school team, I got cut again. But, I told John, I’ve done a lot of cycling and I still backpack, so I’m in fairly good shape. To the point: at the age of sixty-nine, I’ve finally made the team. Now comes the learning of all the intricacies of baseball—fielding strategies and all the techniques that I never learned way back then. The whole endeavor is also a motivator for getting into better shape. Today...I feel like I’m fifty-five all over again! *(continued next page)*

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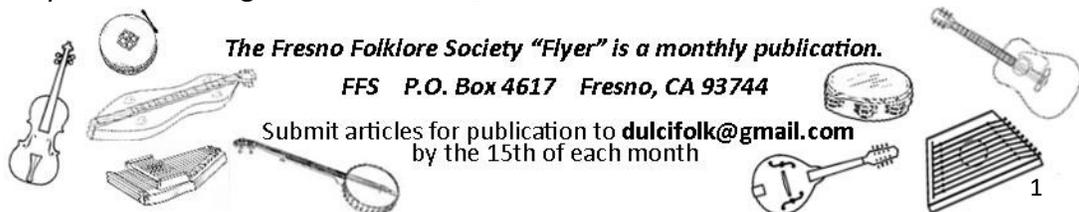
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FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744

Submit articles for publication to dulcifolk@gmail.com
by the 15th of each month



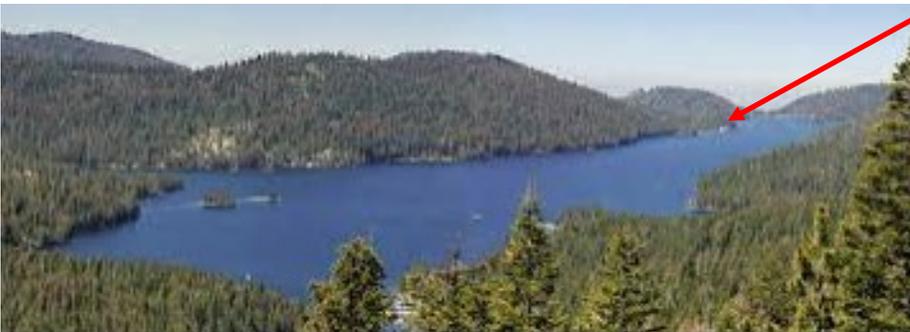
Go out there and start learning something new and then write to us at FFS and tell us your story.

THE FAMOUS PEOPLE LIST

Did that catch your eye? Dues were due for 2021-2022, starting July 1. Quite a few people have renewed already and thank you for that. One of our renewing members refers to the list in the Fresno Flyer (our newsletter) as the “famous people list” and wants to be sure that she is on it. I love that name for it. As far as I am concerned, that is exactly what it should be called. If you have not already renewed your membership in the Fresno Folklore Society, now is the time to add your name to that list. Just because we are still in a pandemic, does not mean that we are underground and not functioning. We have had a few concerts where people distanced themselves and were cautious. Things are slow right now—the south patio at the Santa Fe Basque is not yet open but who wants to try to jam when it is 108 degrees, anyway (only Kenny Hall would have wanted to do that, the hotter the better). The Santa Fe Basque, however, is open inside for meals and we encourage you to patronize them so we do have a place to go later. It looks like we have a good calendar coming up in the future with **Harvest Home** in October, **Misner and Smith** in October, **John McCutcheon** in January, and **Bruce Molsky** in February. Things to do besides organize things, do puzzles, read books, and cook, although, when potlucks resume, some of your new cooking skills can be on display. So get out your checkbook and send in your application with it to: Fresno Folklore Society, P. O. Box 4617, Fresno CA 93744. You can also renew via Paypal through our new website: fresnofolklore.net. Dues are \$20.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a family membership. We will see you at our next event. **(Sue Wirt)**



RETURN TO HUNTINGTON LAKE



Once again, **Ann Lamb, Karen Starcevich, her son, Paul, and I** headed up to Huntington Lake for our expected fabulous weeks of leisure. The sky was blue, the lake was beautiful, the days spread before us. Karen and Paul had flown from Minneapolis, where they now live, and spent a couple of weeks before the Huntington trip visiting with

friends. Once we were at the lake, Paul kayaked, Karen and I played and sang on the porch, Ann read and searched for good driftwood at the resort marina. We all went for walks and cooked meals together. You could see the stars at night. Lo and behold! Monday night (we arrived on Saturday) we learned we would all have to leave by Tuesday midnight as the National Forests in California were going to be closed so it would not strain resources to evacuate us if another fire started nearby. Oh, well. We are already set for next year and have received our refunds. These were understandable precautions after the last few years of wildfires. Back to 105 degrees and smoke. At least I took my autoharp and tuned it—I have actually picked it up a couple of times since returning home. So now, it is Fresno State football games, reading books, calling people I have not seen for awhile, helping out at the Gillis Branch mini-book sale—activities I can actually control. Onward and upward. **(Sue Wirt)**

Harvest Home: A Festival of Traditional Americana Music

The River Center's American roots music festival is back again at the historic Riverview Ranch **Saturday, October 2nd noon-6:30** with a line-up of local and regional bands, The outdoor festival is one of the Parties for the Parkway and is a fundraiser for the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust.



Sharecroppers

The event features the best in (mostly) acoustic traditional music with performers not often featured in local venues: **The Sharecroppers** (bluegrass), **Lark** (American and Celtic trad), **Los Peripherals** (Latin American) **Arkansas Sheiks** reunion (old-time), **Red Dog Ash** (original bluegrass), and **Glen Delpit and the Subterraneans** (bluesy Americana dance music). The family dance scheduled with **Larry Cusick** has been



Lark



Los Peripherals

cancelled for this year due to ongoing concerns about the virus. But Larry will be one of four fiddlers (along with **Terry Barrett, Michael Drayton and Jack Kinney**) who will demonstrate their fiddling skills in a Fiddler's Frolic at the same time.



Arkansas Sheiks

Sound by **Mike Brown**.

Tickets are \$25 and are available on-line through: www.riverparkway.org.



Subterraneans

Fresno Folklore Society and California Bluegrass Association members may purchase discounted tickets at \$20 by entering FFS or CBA in the code during check out. Kids 12 and under are free when accompanied by a ticketed adult. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door.

Beer booth! The Fresno Folklore Society will once again run the beverage booth at the festival, thus making all the profits.

(Karana Hattersley-Drayton)

Call for Volunteers!

We're building a Volunteer Team. This is a group of people who are occasionally, as they are able, willing to help set up or clean up after events. If we can get a dozen or more members, it'll lighten the load for everyone. As the millipede said to the tripod, *"Many legs make light work. And I never trip, however 736 is a little sore this morning."*

Welcome to Our Newest Board Member!

We are so pleased to have **Vickie Cheney** on our FFS board. Vickie joined us at our July meeting and is volunteering to manage our social media sites.



Mike Reilly



I grew up listening to a combination of jazz and classical music. Both of my parents were music majors in college; my mom played cello in the orchestra and my dad played sax and clarinet in jazz bands wherever we lived. Dad ended up studying Ed Psych in his graduate work, and Mom's studies were cut short when she had me.

We moved around a lot during my early years — Wisconsin, Illinois, New York and Pennsylvania before moving to Arkansas when I was just entering 9th grade. I had been playing clarinet for 5 years at that point, and continued into 10th grade.

During a family camping/road trip the summer after 9th grade, I met one of Dad's college roommates who had played guitar with Dad in a jazz band. I was mesmerized watching him play chord triads in the various positions on the fretboard. "When you get home," he said, "find yourself a Yamaha guitar for 75 bucks." So I did.

I took lessons at the local guitar store for about 3 months, and next thing, you know, I was accompanying a small choral group at my girlfriend's church, and playing in folk oriented church services at my parents' church. After a disagreement with the band director about my desire to switch to the saxophone, I quit band and just played my guitar. The year was 1973 - my earliest influences on guitar were CS&N, James Taylor, America, Arlo Guthrie, John Prine and John Denver. I still play some of their tunes to this day.

During the remainder of high school, I sat in on jam sessions with friends who played, but mostly I sat in the back row and played quietly, trying to figure out what they were playing. Much of what they were doing was fingerpicking, coming from folks like Doc Watson and Leo Kottke, well over my head at the time.

Fast forward about 8 years to 1981: I went off to Red Wing, MN to study Musical Stringed Instrument Repair. While there, I had my first exposure to Old Time music. After completing the course, I moved back to Arkansas where I opened my own repair shop, the Fayetteville String Clinic. This shop managed to get me through my Industrial Engineering studies at the University of Arkansas.

After graduation with my engineering degree, I worked as a robotics/automation engineer and then ended up going to work for the VA doing Facility Management Engineering which landed me a job in Fresno in 1989. It took me about 10 years before I found the Fresno Folklore Society, and a couple years later I found the music circle at the Basque.

Around 2003 I started learning how to do live sound from Terry Barrett, and also hung my shingle back out for some instrument repair work (the Sierra String Clinic). Terry asked me out-of-the-blue to do sound for a concert one night because he was double booked. "Why are you asking me?" I asked. His response: "Because you ask good questions."

Although I've had some personal challenges over these last 20 years, I'm still at it— playing music and fixing instruments and doing sound support. I had the good fortune to play with Kenny Hall at the Basque for about 10 years (until his passing), and continue to play there whenever I can. The FFS community has become a valuable part of my life. I look forward to the day we can have music circles again.

This month we honor new board member, **Mike Reilly**. I want to add a bit about Mike as part of The Fresno Folklore Society but also about Mike as friend. I first met Mike in (I think) 2001 when we drove to the Kate Wolf Festival in Northern California. Many hours in the car, talking about our families, our histories, our futures formed a basis for our twenty-year friendship. Then stopping off for the night at my nephew's place in Sebastopol before continuing on to Laytonville and the festival. The festival was better than expected but soon over; Mike's friendship, however, has remained; and he and his family have become part of my family.



When my nephew suggested we build the teak garden house, Mike was the first person I phoned. I trusted his engineering and carpentry skills as well as his "can do" spirit. Many helped that day—I'll give the others credit in another story. Or you can see the actual building of the house on youtube. Part 1 <https://youtu.be/45Zy9-tojLc> Part 2 <https://youtu.be/Ju62tIOBfVE>

Our, Mike's and my friendship, has only strengthened as we've become older and faced crises. We've lost parents and partners—and a few legs along the way. His son has grown into a good man; my granddaughters have grown into young women. We've listened and given advice to each other. And with his ability to think and plan ahead, Mike keeps me organized and on target when planning a concert – as well as being our sound person.

Not only do I enjoy Mike's music--I love hearing him sing Mark Graham's *Oedipus Rex*, especially the line "they don't even do that in Arkansas" -- I appreciate Mike's problem solving ability. With forethought, he willingly takes on tough jobs. No complaining (as far as I know) and with top quality completes them on time. Then smiles his beautiful smile. I'm honored to be his friend and referred to as his "Fresno mom." (Pat Wolk)



There is a virtual memorial for **Ellie Bluestein** on **October 9 at 2 PM**. For the Zoom link and other details, please go here: <http://www.evobluestein.com/obituary-for-ellie-bluestein/> Same as: evobluestein.com (choose the Ellie tab).

That page also has ordering information for the **new book** about Gene and Ellie Bluestein ***Rings Like Silver, Shines Like Gold***.

"It is, at once, a slice of American history, Jewish history, American Studies history, California history, women's history, and more. I'm teaching an American Studies course soon and I can absolutely see using it as a text." — Melinda Russell, Professor of Music, Carleton College



Fresno Folklore Society Presents

Misner & Smith

Saturday, October 23, 2021 7:30PM

The Wolk Garden 6661 N. Forkner Ave. Fresno

\$20 Advance & FFS members; \$25 at door for non-members

Advance tickets online: fresnofolklore.net

Misner & Smith come highly recommended by local musicians. Hear their fine instrumentals and close harmonies on their website: <https://misnerandsmith.com>

Misner & Smith's combination of vocal blend, lyrical potency, and diverse songwriting make this duo one of the most unique and loved bands around. The award-winning original songs range from folk to rock to Americana to country, but essentially are something all their own, defined by the stories that each song tells. Misner & Smith create an extraordinarily full sound for only two people, and tour extensively both in the U.S. and overseas. Headlining regularly at venues such as the Freight & Salvage, and the Palms Playhouse, they have also appeared at The Kate Wolf Music Festival, San Francisco Folk Festival, and can be heard on radio dials all over the world. They recently celebrated over a decade of making music together; a decade that has produced five albums, including their most recent release, *headwaters*.



Exciting news! Special event in the Wolk Garden Saturday, October 30, 7:00 PM



Fresno's own **CERRO NEGRO** will perform, opening with their rumba flamenco music for

LARS in CHARGE with his Turkish Rom fiddle music with special guest performers

Fortunately for us: Lars (from The Mill) is coming to Fresno to

record his music.

COME! Pay at the gate: \$15 for FFS members \$20 for non members

Bring your own chair, food and drinks. You know the routine **PACK IT IN; PACK IT OUT!**

Please refer questions to John Martin 559-284-5128

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9qcqyz81lg>





BLUEGRASS IN THE PARK

Great music, good friends, popsicles from Oh Da Lollie (think lemon custard, maple pecan, banana, chocolate cheesecake). Most Fridays from July through September 17, found 100 to 150 people, comfy in their lawn chairs, enjoying the evenings at Liberty Park in Clovis with a variety of bands to tickle their musical taste buds. Thank you to the Clovis Veterans' Memorial District, the California Bluegrass Association, the Clovis Senior Center, **Karana Hattersley-Drayton, Stan Allen,**

and Kent Kinney for all of their time and attention to detail that resulted in another season of music that brightened our summer. All of us who attended are looking forward to next year **(Sue Wirt)**

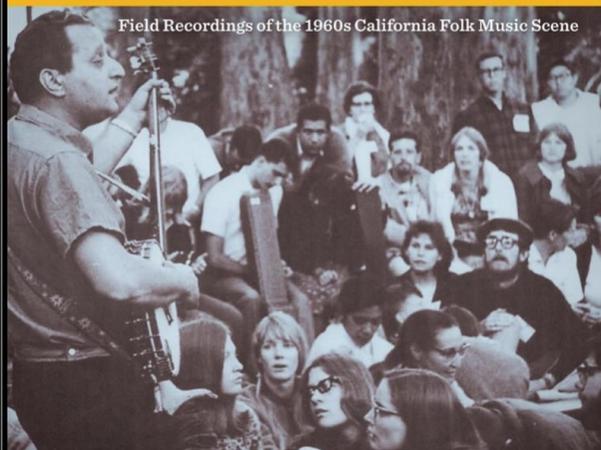
MUFFIN TINS

The August/September issue of AARP magazine has an article about using your muffin/cupcake tins for some delectable-looking food. Instead of whipping up your Jiffy mix or from-scratch cornbread or party/desert cupcakes, use them for little fruit pies, individual mini-meat loaves, taco salads (tiny compuestas), or mini deep dish pizzas. Use pastry circles, cut up tortillas, or pizza dough pressed into the tins. Little frittatas, potato and cheese gratin, mini-meatloaves in the fluted paper cups all look like they would be fun to bake and serve. I haven't used my muffin tins in years—maybe I'll try my recipe for chili relleno casserole in them. **(Sue Wirt)**



New CD "The Village Out West" (Smithsonian Folkways)

THE VILLAGE OUT WEST
The Lost Tapes of Alan Oakes



Just got my copy of this 2 cd collection about folk music in the west during the 1960s Folk Revival. These are recordings made by early Fresno Folk Club member **Alan Oakes**. He passed away a few years ago. **Deborah Robins** and **Henry Sapoznik** produced this 2-CD collection. It is similar in approach to my book and cd "**Road to Sweet's Mill**," correcting the narrative that all things significant came from the east coast, like the Greenwich Village scene. The collection has such greats as the **Sweet's Mill Mountain Boys, Merritt Herring, Kenny Hall, Larry Hanks, Doc Watson, Rev. Gary Davis, Miss. Fred McDowell, New Lost City Ramblers, Kilby Snow, Gene Bluestein** (my father is also featured on the cover), and so many more musicians! It is a great collection,

with extensive notes. You can get it wherever you buy cds online. **(Evo Bluestein)**

OCTOBER, 2021, EVENTS

Sat, Oct. 2, Harvest Home: A Festival of Traditional Music. 12:00 pm to 6:30 pm, River Center, 11605 Old Friant Road. Fresno. An afternoon of music outdoors with several bands, a family square dance, food trucks, cold beer, etc. \$25.00, kids under 12 free. Discount for CBA and FFS members. Visit riverparkway.org.

Fri. and Sat. Oct. 15 & 16, Clovis Botanical Garden. 10 am. Water-Wise Plant Sale. Alluvial and Clovis Aves. Tour the garden, purchase plants and garden art, vote for your favorite scarecrow. **FREE.**

Sat. and Sun., Oct. 16 & 17, Harvest Arts Festival, 10 am to 5 pm and 10 am to 4 pm, respectively. Local farm produce, arts and crafts, food booths, music all day, children's activities. New location on Sierra High School campus, called the Mary Barton Park near the Lynda Qualls Presentation Center. Sierra High School is on Lodge Road about one mile past the stop sign at the bottom of the four-lane on Hwy 168.

Tues. through Sun. Oct. 19-24, California Autoharp Gathering, St Nicholas Ranch, Dunlap. See website for information on instructors, registration, and schedules. calautoharp.com.

Sat., Oct. 23, Misner & Smith, 7:30 pm in the Wolk Folk Garden, 6661 N Forkner, Fresno, bring your chair and snacks (pack it in/pack it out). Check out their website. \$20.

Sat., Oct. 30, Cerro Negro & Lars & In Charge, 7:00 pm in the Wolk Folk Garden, 6661 N. Forkner, Fresno. Bring your chair and snacks (pack it in/pack it out). Turkish fiddle and rumba/flamenco music. Tickets sold at door only.

FUTURE EVENTS

Thurs., Jan. 13, John McCutcheon at the UU Church.

Thurs., Feb. 10, Bruce Molsky and Allison De Groot at University Presbyterian Church.

Grateful for Your Support of Our Fresno Folklore Society

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of our paid members below. Your dues promote music in our community. Folklore Society membership runs from July 1 to the end of June. You can mail us a check or pay through PayPal on our website at fresnofolklore.net. When you do your dues, you'll be at least as famous as these people shown below.

Allen & Debra Church	George & Linda Sward	Linda & George Sward
Allen Lintvedt	Georgia Porcella	Lorenzo Bassman
Andrea DeZubria	Gordon & Linda Renfro	Lou & Christi Paradise
Ann Lamb	Greg & Bette Merrill	Lynda Emanuels
Ann Lewis	Greg & Roberta Lane	Lynette Bassman & John Reed
Ann & Bill Flayer	Gerry Bill	Maia Ballis
Anne Betancourt	Glen Delpit	Margaret Rivers
Anne Merrill & Mike Stepanyan	Howard Ono	Margaret Tynan
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Becky Richardson	Jeff Hallock & Deb Symes	Mike Newton
Betsy Hill	Jennifer Jones & Tony Rendon	Mike Reilly
Bill & Ceci Johnson	Jim & Elaine Salvatore	Nancy Hatcher
Bill Lulay	Lynn Ross	Nancy Waidtlow
Bob Garcia	Joan Rubenstein	Nina Powell
Bonnie Douglas & Tom Kramer	Joel Patrick	Pam & Paul Schramm
Brenda Markham	John & Amelia Ryan	Patrick O'Sullivan
Bruce Honeyman	John & Andrea McDaniel	Pat Wolk
Carl & Kathryn Johnsen	John & Barbara Chookasian	Paul & Karen Starcevich
Charles Swanson	John & Debi Alden	Penny Critchlow & Mark Olson
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Christy Bardon	John & Tama Gilbert	Randy & Anita Morris
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Dan Stein	Joliene Mason	Ron & Megan Bohigian
Daniel & Sharon Baradat	Jon Adams	Sal & Denise Sciandra
David & Ann Cehrs	Judi Redmond	Sandi Downs
David & Carol Boos	Judy Bezzerides	Sayre Miller
David & Katzi Engel	Julie Hornback	Shelley Fetterman
David Kuehl & D.J. Peters	Kara Bithell	Sherron Brown & Michael Hill
David Neal Family	Karana Hattersley-Drayton	Stan Allen
Debbie Jo Wagner	Kathryn Long-Pence	Stephen Fretz & Lynn Moss
Dennis & Harriett Pollock	Kathy Wosika & David Fox	Steve Barnett
Devin & Clair Carroll	Kay Pitts	Sue Wirt
Diane Hanson-Barnes	Kelly & Anastasia O'Neill	Susan Coberly
Dick Estel	Kent & Susan Kinney	Susan Mc Andrew
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Ed & Alice Hawke	Kitty Culleton	Tim & Janet Johnson
Elaine Fetterman	LaDonna Rowe	Toni Eames & James van Eseltine
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Finegold Trust	Linda Dryden	
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Fran Saunders & Paul Indman	Lee Liddle	
Frank Gibson	Leo Michon	
Fresno Music Academy & Arts	Leo Pedretti & Ellen Lipp	
Gabriele Case	Linda Foster	
Gary Morrison	Linda Guerrero & Bill Lehr	



A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

P.O. Box 4617

Fresno, CA 93744

Return Service Requested

Would you like to become a member of the Fresno Folklore Society?

The Fresno Folklore Society (FFS) is a non-profit community-based organization. It sponsors traditional music, dancing, and other traditional art forms. FFS hosts potlucks and jam sessions; it encourages and promotes new musicians through classes, recording opportunities and other support. FFS members share visions and concerns for a peaceful and just world and actively support efforts to create an eco-friendly environment.

Membership Levels: \$20.00 individual; \$30.00 family; \$50.00 corporate sponsor

Membership information: 559-222-9801

NEW MEMBER? Yes No

RENEWING? Yes No

RENEWING AFTER LAPSE? Yes No

Number of family Members: _____ The monthly copy of the Society Flyer is delivered only by email to the address below.

Current e-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Individual: _____ Family: _____ Corporate Sponsor: _____ Affiliated member: _____

Are you willing to provide volunteer help with Fresno Folklore Society events? Yes No

What are your special folklore interests? _____

For more information visit our website at www.fresnofolklore.net

Membership payments and donations can be mailed to: FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744