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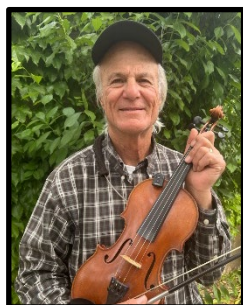
Submit articles to:
dulcifolk@gmail.com

By the 15th of each month



A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

Notes from Board President, Ron Bohigian



There's wonderful news in our folklore community! For the past several months, the century-old **Severance Dance Building** has been up for sale. At a community meeting just two weeks ago, we learned that through the generosity of **Mr. David Brodie**, the building has been purchased and will be the new home to **Fresno Music Academy & Arts!** For nearly 100 years, the Severance building has been a place where people learned, created, danced, performed, and built

community. It has been closed for quite a while. Soon, the Severance building will be buzzing with the arts again. FMAA will be moving into the building, and this is where students of all ages will continue learning. In addition, the upstairs is a 4000 square foot concert hall so we can expect that our Fresno Folklore Society will be holding events there. But, before they can open the doors, there's a lot of work to be done which includes building classrooms, painting, upgrading electrical and lighting.

FMAA will need our help in making this happen. There are two QR Codes that will tell you what YOU can do. The FFS board is excited and supports this important endeavor. Every gift moves this important project forward and it welcomes those with carpentry, electrical, plumbing and other forms of "sweat equity". Should be fun, too. As your President, I'm a contributor and ready to sweat. Just don't put me in charge of electrical because...things can happen.

Check out both QR codes. One asks for your thoughts about the project ([/PEACESeverance](#)) and if you wish to help with reconstruction work (sweat/technical know-how). The other QR code is where you can make monetary donations. ([/SupportSeverance](#)) More next month about kids (and adults) learning music. It's never too late.



Thank you for your generosity!



tinyurl.com/SupportSeverance

THE SEVERANCE REVITALIZATION PROJECT.

WE WANT YOU TO BE PART OF THIS JOURNEY IN WAYS THAT FEEL RIGHT FOR YOU. PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THIS FORM. WE LOOK FORWARD TO READING YOUR INPUT AND TO STAYING IN TOUCH!



tinyurl.com/PEACESeverance

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Submit articles for publication to dulcifolk@gmail.com

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My Bluegrass Odyssey Part 4

By Dick Estel

The year 2002 ended with an excellent festival and a visit to a place that had been on my bucket list for some time. By this time I had subscribed to one or two bluegrass association newsletters, including Southwest Bluegrass Association (SWBA). In this way I learned about festivals all over the west and in 2002 this included the 13th annual Logandale Bluegrass Festival. Logandale is about 60 miles from Las Vegas and the site of the Clark County fairgrounds. I decided to make it a two-week vacation, attending the festival, then going on to Arches National Park in Utah.

After an overnight stop in Barstow, I arrived at Logandale about 2 p.m. on Wednesday, got in a line of RV's just entering the grounds, and got a spot with water and electricity. This is a luxury not found at every festival, usually available in limited numbers. People arriving after this day had to dry camp. I could do that, but it would have meant running a generator for a couple of hours each day.

It was at this festival that I became acquainted with a group of people who were from the Salt Lake area. They became "bluegrass friends" at this and the following year's festival, and I stayed in touch with Danny, a country musician who was attending his first bluegrass event.

One of the big attractions of festivals is "jamming," or jam sessions in which any number of folks get together to sing and play. These are mostly amateurs, many of them quite skilled, but it's not unusual for some of the paid performers to join in. Jams often go on till the wee hours, and I have observed that some attendees never go to the main stage, but just hang out in their camps the entire festival.

My main goal was always to see all the stage performances, but I often observed a jam for a while during meal breaks or at the end of the day. Although I own a guitar, I did not participate except for a short time at the Logandale festival. I describe my singing and musicianship this way: If there's a jam in your camp and you want everyone to leave so you can go to bed, that's when you ask me to sing and play.

One reason I tried to arrive on Wednesday for festivals that started on Friday was to explore the area on Thursday. A few miles down Nevada Highway 169 is the Valley of Fire State Park. I did a short hike there and enjoyed seeing the odd shapes and various shades of the sandstone rock that gives the place its name.

Once the music got under way, three groups stood out for me at this event. The Liberty Bluegrass Boys were a hard-driving traditional band, led by Roy Bennett from Liberty TX. He was joined by Digger Davis, the 1999 State of Texas Banjo Champion, and two "pickup musicians" from California, Joe Ash on bass and Mike Tatar Jr. on fiddle, who I would see with various other line-ups.

The Lampkins Family consisted of mom and dad, daughter Jamie, and her best friend Heather. Jamie was an absolute maniac on the banjo, playing at supersonic speed. The two girls were around 19 or 20 at this time, and I've been unable to find out what became of this band. Probably adulthood ended this band, as it has so many others.

I first saw Ron Spears & Within Tradition at one of the Mariposa festivals. I would see him in various settings over the years, and eventually he dissolved the band and for a while was a limousine driver in Nashville. His band included another artist who would pop up in various settings, the excellent guitarist Charlie Edsall.

I enjoyed the entire festival, the weather, the surroundings, and the good company. Now it was time to head for Utah and Arches National Park. My parents had been there a number of years earlier and spoke highly of the place, especially Delicate Arch. So I drove out to I-15 and headed to the Nevada border.

This highway crosses a corner of northwestern Arizona, following the Virgin River Canyon through a mountain range, before entering Utah and the border town of St. George. I continued north to Cedar City, then took Utah Highway 14 east over an 11,000 foot pass to US 89, where I turned north to I-70. After staying overnight at Richfield, UT, I enjoyed my first trip across that state through the magical landscape of the Colorado Plateau.

US 191 took me south to Moab, the jumping off point for Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. I stayed in an RV park about ten miles south of the entrance to Arches. The national park exceeded all expectations. Words and even pictures can't adequately show the dramatic sandstone walls, weird shapes and the arches. Let it be sufficient to say that if the park had not a single arch, it would still be worth seeing.

I spent five days, hiking and driving to most of the major points of interest in Arches and the Island in the Sky district of Canyonlands. I ended up adding an extra day to my stay since I found I could not get everywhere I wanted in just four days. And I have been compelled to return at least five more times. Arches has become my second favorite national park after Yosemite. Now if they'd just schedule a bluegrass festival at the Windows Section of Arches National Park.



Liberty Bluegrass Boys



Arches National Park

NELL & JIM & KALEI TRIO

Fresno! Forget this miserably hot summer. Bring your dinner and relax in the shade of the Wolk Garden. The Nell, Jim & Kalei Trio is coming to the **Wolk Garden on Sunday, Sept 13 at 6 PM.** They've been here before and you said to bring them back. Kalei is a recent addition. You can hear them on their website www.nellandjim.com. Beer and wine ok. No hard liquor. \$25 advance & members. \$30 at the gate for non members



:Songs & Stories of Migration, Home, Mystery & Love. *Think Bluegrass meets Singer/Songwriter meets Folk meets Country.* The Nell & Jim & Kalei Trio takes listeners on a journey of the themes of migration, home, mystery and love - in territory both familiar and surprising, reflective and joyful. Featuring original music and beloved covers, beautiful vocal harmonies and pickin'. Guitar, Banjo, Accordion, Flute. **(Pat Wolk)**



Dailey & Vincent

Friday, July 31, 2026 Tower Theatre, Fresno Doors 7:30 PM • Show 8:30 PM

Few acts in American roots music can match the vocal chemistry of Jamie Dailey and Darrin Vincent. Grand Ole Opry members and three-time Grammy nominees, Dailey & Vincent have spent nearly two decades proving that bluegrass, country, and gospel are strongest when they're woven together — and their live show is where that all comes alive. With virtuosic musicianship, deep harmonies, and a genuine warmth that fills any room, this is an evening of American music at its finest.

Tickets on sale now at fresnotowertheatre.com

Linda says, "Join the Pageant now!"

I have been very entrenched in almost manic behavior. I am creating puppets for the **Phoenix Pageant**, and the characters are my tribe! They are all over my dining room table and some are experiencing love by crashing at my friend's homes!

Please come this year and help the puppeteer's or become one of the characters in the pageant! You do not have to speak! Just hold your puppet or prop with attitude and walk! **The Phoenix Pageant is in the Meadow Lakes Apple Orchard off Auberry Road from 11: 00 to 12:30 on Sat. September 19th!** The orchard will be open till 4:00 pm

There will artisans, food trucks and yummy apple treats. There will also be hayrides, and our Uncle Ephus band "might" play afterwards. Wear sunscreen and come in costume if that sounds fun! This is a family event! Oh! You might want to bring your own camping chair! This is Folklore of our mountains... **(Linda Dryden).**



Linda & Friends



Bluegrass In The Park Schedule for 2026



Music from 6:30 p.m. until dusk at 901 Fifth St, Clovis in Liberty Park, just east of Old Town and the Veterans Memorial Building, in front of the Law School. Bring a chair or blanket, a picnic supper, your family and friends and be ready for a good time! Bluegrass in the Park is sponsored by the California Bluegrass Association. Like us on Facebook!

Date	Band Name and Musicians
AUGUST-SEPTEMBER (Concerts start at 6 pm)	
August 28th	Pipe on the Hob (Celtic) <i>Donn Beedle (fiddle/viola/mandolin), Karana Hattersley-Drayton (vocals/keyboards/bodhran), Carl Johnsen (hammer dulcimer/penny whistle), Kathryn Johnsen (Celtic harp/keyboards).</i>
September 4th	Uncle Ephus <i>Ron Zastovnik (mandolin), Jean Kilpatrick (fiddle), Doug Cornelius (vocals/percussion), Steve Barnett (vocals/guitar), Linda Dryden (vocals/autoharp), Barbara LaRae (banjo/dobro/harmonica/guitar/vocals), Edwin Hawke (bass).</i>
September 11th	Sugar Pine <i>Chuck Thrapp (guitar/vocals), Dave Novell (guitar/vocals), Robyn Flory (vocals), Jeff Gurule (banjo/vocals), Ron "Bearm" Murray (Ubase /vocals).</i>
September 18th	Tall Can Koozi <i>Adam Johnson (guitar/vocals) Dalisay Johnson (fiddle/vocals), Dan Kehler (bass/vocals).</i>
September 25th	Ripe for Pickin' <i>Donn Beedle (fiddle/viola/mandolin/vocals), Kevin Campbell (vocals/guitar), Pat Kemble (dobro), Tom Naiman (banjo/vocals), John Mooneyham (bass).</i>



Photo: Vicki Cheney

Pipe on the Hob's concert, **August 28th** at Bluegrass in the Park, is "**Off to California: The Celtic Connection.**" Tunes will feature the roots of traditional music including bluegrass, with a few songs from that prominent Scottish-American, Bill Monroe.

(Karana Hattersley Drayton)

Check the 2026 schedule for Respite by the River at

<https://riverparkway.org/activities/respite-by-the-river/>

Music 6-7 PM Reading 7-8 PM 11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno, CA 93730



Steven Sanchez

On August 13 Steven Sanchez, whose debut book, *Phantom Tongue* (Sundress Publications), was chosen by Mark Doty for the Rochelle Ratner Memorial Award. He is a CantoMundo Fellow, a Lambda Literary Fellow, and the inaugural winner of the Federico Garcia Lorca Poetry Prize for an emerging Latinx poet. He lives in Fresno, California, where he completed his MFA in Creative Writing at California State University, Fresno **Tip Jar** is a local band just having fun while entertaining you with a mixture of blues, pop, rock, and original tunes.



Tip Jar

DUES ARE DUE AGAIN

Just when you thought it was safe, here come the dreaded deadlines for dues renewal. The due date for annual membership renewal for Fresno Folklore Society is July 1. There is usually an article in the June newsletter, but, alas, I forgot to put it in there. So here it is, the REMINDER. Ours is an all-volunteer organization and the dues are used to pay for newsletters, cost of website, insurance for events, tickets, advertising, cost of maintaining access to on-line tickets, post office box rental, etc. Your money is used wisely and carefully managed. Attention would be appreciated. If you are new to the Society and joined after March 31, you are good for another year. If not, please remit your dues through website: [fresnofolklore .net](https://fresnofolklore.net) or by mail to Fresno Folklore Society, P. O. Box 4617, Fresno CA, 93744. (Sue Wirt)

In the 1970s "The Mill" evolved from Americana to world music. Stewart Mennin of Pitu Guli band:

"Without Sweet's Mill there would not have been any Balkan music camps. I can say that with a fair degree of certainty. The way things unfolded, without Sweet's Mill we would never have been able to put that together. The Mill was the genesis of the Balkan camps which was the genesis of the Middle Eastern music camps. Nada Lewis invited Pitu Guli to Sweet's Mill in 1973, I think. We had been playing up and down the West Coast. We were known by the folk dancers of Bulgarian, Macedonian and Greek style. We were the only ones playing the music live for dancing in the early 70s, and we used the traditional instruments from those regions. We loved the ambiance and environment at Sweet's Mill. We went to the other side of the lake which was uninhabited at that time. We set up our camp there and played. People were stunned. There was a strong connection between the Irish and American fiddling and Irish and Bulgarian music. It sounded similar. We had bagpipes. There's a lot of 6/8, 2/4. A lot of people immediately got entranced with Balkan music, and many of those people are still playing music related to that experience. We started teaching classes because that's what you do at Sweet's Mill. We learned how to teach that music to other people there."

(Evo Bluestein)

Full story in this book: <https://www.evobluestein.com/store/#!/Road-to-Sweets-Mill/p/84551234>



Patty Farber



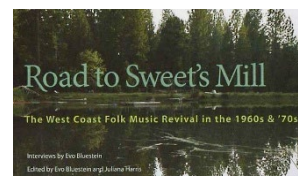
Patty Farber



Stewart Mennin & Frannie Leopold



Pitu Guli Band plays for Sweet's Mill dance





<i>Introduction to</i> Folk Dancing 	Mondays 6pm <i>Have some fun</i> learning the basics of Folk Dancing. Classes include dance instruction and practice. Come with or without a partner. Newcomers of all ages are welcome! August 10 & 24 Classes are led by members of the Fresno Scandinavian & Nordic Folk Dancers and the Fresno International Folk Dancers. Woodward Park Regional Library 944 E. Perrin Ave. 600.3135
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AUGUST 2026 EVENTS

Every Wednesday: Kenny Hall Jam @ Santa Fe Basque Restaurant, 5-7 PM FREE

Every Sunday: Turf in the Bog @ Yosemite Wine Tails, 40409 Hwy 41, Oakhurst, 1-5 PM, Irish flute & bodhran

Second Sunday monthly: Irish Jam @ La Boulangerie in Fig Garden Village, 1-3 PM FREE

Every Monday: We're Not That Bad Community Strum Along @ 635 E Floradora, 7-9 PM FREE

Every Monday: HonkyTonk Jam hosted by Marc Poschman and Miss Mikal Sandoval @ Santa Fe Basque Restaurant 5-7 PM south patio (Maroa and Simpson). Bring your instruments and play along. FREE

Second Saturday monthly: Old Time Fiddlers and Music Jam @ Santa Fe Basque 2:00- 4:00 PM (Maroa and Simpson). FREE

Every second and last Monday monthly: Tower District Bluegrass Jam @ Goldstein's, 1279 N Wishon 6-8 PM

EVENTS

Fri Jul 31: Dailey and Vincent @ Tower Theatre, 7:30 PM (see article)

Mon Aug 10: Folk Dancing @ Woodward Park Library, 6 PM (see notice above)

Thurs Aug 13: Respite By The River @ River Center, Tip Jar & Steven Sanchez, 6 PM (see article)

Mon Aug 24: Folk Dancing @ Woodward Park Library, 6 PM (see notice above)

Fri Aug 28: Bluegrass In The Park, Pipe On The Hob @ Liberty Park, Clovis 6:30-8:30 PM (see article)

FUTURE EVENTS

Fri Sept 4: Bluegrass In The Park, Uncle Ephus @ Liberty Park, Clovis 6:30-8:30 PM (see article)

Fri Sept 11: Bluegrass In The Park, Sugar Pine @ Liberty Park, Clovis 6:30-8:30 PM (see article)

Sun Sept 13: Nell & Jim & Kalei Trio @ Wolk Garden, 6PM (see article)

Fri Sept 18: Bluegrass In The Park, Tall Can Koozi @ Liberty Park, Clovis 6:30-8:30 PM (see article)

Sat Sept 19: Phoenix Pageant @ Meadow Lakes Apple Orchard, 11-12:30 (see article)

Fri Sept 25: Bluegrass In The Park, Ripe For Pickin' @ Liberty Park, Clovis 6:30-8:30 PM (see article)

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.

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Allan Fifield	Don Lange Family	Juliene Mason	Mike & Mary Neidhamer Smith
Allen Lintvedt	Don Loweburg	Jon Adams	Miles & Marilyn Ross
Allen & Erin Smith	Donna Naffziger	Judy Bezzerides	Mona Faulkner
Andrea DeZubiria	Doug & Betty Cornelius	Judy Nibler	Nancy Griggs Family
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Anne Mosgrove & Kevin Hall	Evan Evan	Kathryn Long-Pence	Paul Pierce
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Deb Symes & Jeff Hallock	John & Debi Alden	Lynn Ross	Charles Chisolm & Susan Sanford
Debbie Jo Wagner	John & Linda Camerer	Margaret Rivers	Susana Peckinpah
Debra Scarborough	John & Maureen Hayes	Maria Glover	Susan & Chester Neville
Denise & Kimbrough Leslie	John Beynon	Maria Wortham	Suzanne Pickruhn
Dennis & Harriet Pollock	John LaLonde & Joyce Burel	Mark Eaton	Team Neville Concerts
Diane Dimon		Mark & Jan Balcom	Terry Geiger Family
Dick Estel		Michael Black	Terri & Kem Bricker
Dixie Salazar		Mike Newton	Thomas Zimoski
		Mike Reilly	Tim Borden
			Tim & Alison Simmers
			Tom Bohigian
			Tom Sims
			Toni Eames & James van Eseltine
			Trent & Deanna Marks
			Valerie Forward
			Wes Beal
			William Gray Family
			Ximena & George Schimpf
			Zana Frownfelter



A Non-Profit Corporation for Traditional Arts

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: \$25.00 individual; \$35.00 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 by email to the address below.

Membership payments are Due July 1st each year

Current e-mail address: _____ 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