

September 2021

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

Sometimes we can find treasures right under our noses. Just this week I was looking at



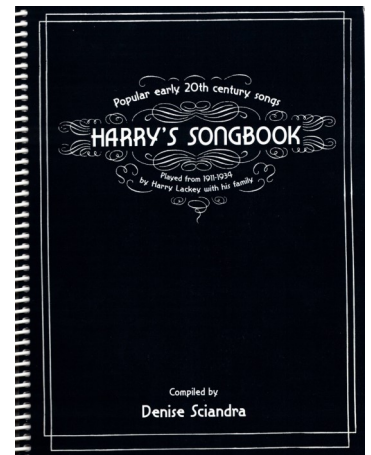
Denise Sciandra's *Harry's Songbook*. Sciandra's work is a collection and recollection of her grandfather's favorite fiddle tunes and songs that he and his family played back in the early 20th century during the Great Depression. I found the account of the family's move out west during those economically bleak days especially interesting. My own father told me a lot about how people worked and got by in hard times. Sciandra's grandfather Harry Lackey and his family made a four-day journey leaving Texas on their way to California. He brought his fiddles with him. The entire trip cost a total of \$32.64 including, one day, the purchase of seven Milky Way candy bars for \$.35 in all. I understand the concept of monetary inflation, but it must be true that when times are tough, many of us get by on way less than we do today.

There is a parallel between Sciandra's work and my hobby of growing, studying, and observing plants, mostly native ones. When you learn some details, some history about a given plant or plant community, the plant or plant community takes on greater meaning. We had a president years ago who was reported to say, "If you've seen one tree, you've seen 'em all." He apparently didn't know the stories behind the trees.

Yes, there are treasures all around us. I was checking out

Evo Bluestein's Patreon site and came across his interview with Barry Shultz. Again, I gained new information that gives more meaning to those tunes we play.

Bottom line: A tune is just a tune until you know the story behind it. Go out and find some treasures. Write to us at FFS. We'll share your story.



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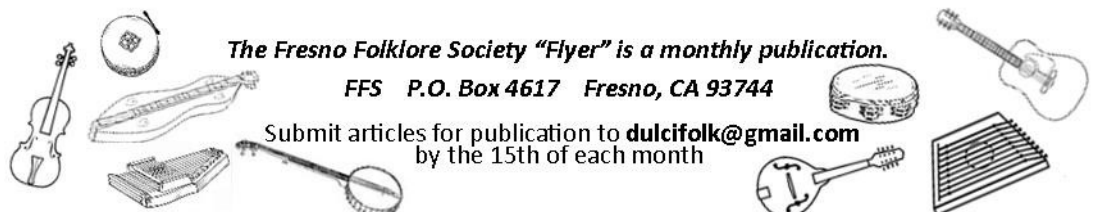
Logo Design
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Banjo Frog Art
by Jon Adams

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FFS P.O. Box 4617 Fresno, CA 93744

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HIKING AT COURTRIGHT

While Dixie Fire smoke and the usual San Joaquin Valley smog filled the air at the lower elevations, seven friends (three of whom are FFS members) drove to Courtright Lake for a hiking adventure. The canyon between Wishon and Courtright was still pretty hazy, but the vista at Courtright was clear, the various domes around the lake starkly visible around the bright blue lake. This trip was to the trailhead on the West side, where we parked, grabbed our water and our poles, and set off. We had done previous hikes on the East side of the dam, where most of the trail is over the Ersham Trail (a four-wheel-drive trail) that goes over large rock expanses with huge boulders. As we began the hike that goes down to the lake, the operative word was certainly "down." Those of us who had not been on this trail before, looked at each other and said, "We have to come up this." Four of us stopped about ¼ mile from the bottom, while the others continued down to the cove. Due to the drought, there was no lake in the cove, just rocks and tree stumps. Jeff was disappointed but philosophical about it. This is his favorite place in the world. Dick, Allen, Carolyn, and I rested a bit and started our labored hike back "up". I, who has seldom had any trouble at altitude, was having difficulty getting enough oxygen and had to stop every 100 feet or so to huff and puff. The COVID pounds are very telling. I wasn't the only one who had to stop often. Luckily, there were lots of shady spots with convenient logs. Jeff, Keith and Wes caught up with us and continued on. Jeff and Keith waited further up the trail. Wes, however, decided to take a side hike down to the lake near the campground entrance, catching a ride back with someone who offered when he realized, "uh, oh, I have to climb back up again". Hauling our chairs out of our cars, we sat around and had lunch, talking about our adventure. Expecting to have sore calves and thighs the next day or so, I was pleasantly surprised that there were no ill effects from the "down" and "up". Maybe it's because I have been doing circuit work at Curves most weeks. As I prepare to go to Huntington Lake at the end of August for a two-week stay, I look forward to the hikes that are taken every day, getting myself ready for the Fall trips with the REFCO Ramblers. **(Sue Wirt)**



Thursday, June 24 Reading by **Ife-Chudeni Oputa**
Music by **Happenstance**

Thursday, July 8 Reading by **Tanya Nichols & Bill McEwen**
Music by **Glen Delpit**

Thursday, August 12 Reading by **Catherine Abbey Hodges**
Music by **Rob Hodges**

Thursday, September 16 Reading by **Sam Pereira**
Music by **Los Peripherals**

Please visit www.riverparkway.org for more program information



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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). **Larry Cusick** will call a family square dance. Food trucks will be on site. Sound by **Mike Brown**.



Lark



Los Peripherals

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

Volunteers needed: As with the first two festivals, volunteers are critical to this event and receive free entry.



Subterraneans

Please contact:

Karana Hattersley-Drayton at karanadrayton@comcast.net if you are interested in helping out this year.



Arkansas Sheiks

Beer booth! The Fresno Folklore Society will once again run the beverage booth at the festival, thus making all the profits. Volunteers definitely needed! Let Ron Bohigian or Karana know if you want a two-three hour shift! **(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.



Ron Bohigian



I was born in Fresno on December 19, 1951 at the old Saint Agnes Hospital on Fruit Avenue. I went to school here in town all the way to CSU Fresno. Then, unable to get out of school, I taught at the elementary level for eleven years before wandering into administration for another twenty-six years. I retired in 2012, but shortly before that I talked with **Evo Bluestein** who was doing two weeks of music at my school (Viking Elementary) and I decided to get myself a fiddle and take some lessons from Evo. Shortly after, I mustered the audacity to join in on some slow jams and ultimately sit in on the Kenny Hall jams at the Basque. I was reticent at first, worried that I'd sound so bad, but Evo assured me, "Don't worry. Nobody can hear you anyway." Since then I've learned scores of tunes and soon, at my age, I expect I'll start forgetting them as quickly as I learn new ones. One night at the Basque jam, **Linda**

Guerrero sensing my vulnerability, offered to give me free lessons if I'd take her place on the FFS board. Of course, I accepted. A couple years later, **Denise Sciandra**, sensing my vulnerability, asked if I'd accept the position of FFS president. Once again, my head ever-expanding, I accepted.

So here we are. I get to work with a really wonderful, pleasant, cooperative group of people on the FFS board. There must be something wrong. It's fun. All the time.

EVO BLUESTEIN & TERRY BARRETT

TOCA MADERA WINERY, SEPT. 26, 2021

Oldtime Songs and Tunes, **1-4 pm, Free!**
Bring your picnic. Try the wines! Beautiful setting!

Toca Madera Winery

36140 Avenue 9, Madera, California 93636



Dear Folklore Society,

Thank you for giving me the scholarship so that I can have longer lessons with Evo. I'm really enjoying learning all the different kinds of music and all the different instruments. My two favorite instruments right now are mandolin and fiddle. Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Lucy Coary

Thank You note from a happy Sue Beevers
Scholarship recipient.

BLUEGRASS IN THE PARK, The 2021 series of concerts is going into the



Red Dog Ash

homestretch. **Red Dog Ash** plays September 3rd, **Ripe for Pickin'** is on for September 10th and **Uncle Ephus** closes out the season on September 17th. Performances are held in the **Veteran's Memorial (Liberty) Park**, 901 Fifth Street, **6-8PM** in Clovis and are free,



Ripe For Pickin'

but performers are only compensated through the generosity of the audience tips! Bring a picnic dinner and hunker down under the trees for a night of music.



Uncle Ephus

FLOWERS

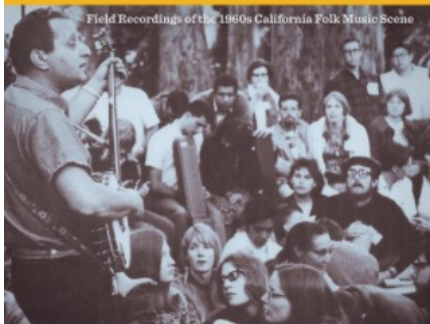


Give yourself flowers just because. My kitties are all very old now and don't jump up on the cabinets any more. I can have vases of flowers now. They don't end up on the floor. I stop at Smart and Final or Trader Joe's every couple of weeks and buy alstroemeria or carnations or gladiolas, together sometimes, or separately. My vases, unused for years, are getting a workout now. It makes me happy. It has always been amazing to me how a flower can change an attitude. Ann Lamb makes flower hair clips (fake) and has requests for more because they make people feel beautiful. Treat yourself to something good. You don't have to go to San Francisco to wear a flower in your hair or put some on your cabinets. (Sue Wirt)

THE VILLAGE OUT WEST

The Lost Tapes of Alan Oakes

Field Recordings of the 1960s California Folk Music Scene



The Village Out West: The Lost Tapes of Alan Oakes

Folk History News from EVO

More proof that the west mattered! There is one song by Gene (my father) on this new collection of old recordings. Thanks to the producers for using the wonderful photo of him (Berkeley Folk Festival, 1964). You can see Kathy and Carol, Larry Hanks, Faith Petric (I think), and others in the photo. It is available for pre-orders now at the site below. (Evo Bluestein)

<https://smithsonianfolkways.bandcamp.com/album/the-village-out-west-the-lost-tapes-of-alan-oakes>

LAURIE LEWIS & the Right Hands

Saturday, September 25. 7:30 PM

WOLK GARDEN 6661 N. Forkner Fresno



Honor each other: Present vaccination card or wear a mask.

\$20 Advance/FFS members \$25 at door Tickets available online www.fresnofolklore.net

Laurie Lewis: fiddler, guitarist, singer, songwriter, and Grammy-winner. Since her debut in 1986, Laurie has recorded over 20 albums. She's been a founding member of the Good Ol' Persons and the Grant Street String Band, **twice been voted IBMA's Female Vocalist of the Year**, her classic rendition of Kate Long's song, "Who Will Watch the Home Place?" **won International Bluegrass Song of the Year**, and her latest album with her band the Right Hands, *The Hazel and Alice Sessions*, was **nominated for the Best Bluegrass Recording Grammy in 2017**.

[Fretboard Journal Premieres "You Are My Flower" off upcoming album...and Laurie Lewis](http://www.fretboardjournal.com/premieres/you-are-my-flower-off-upcoming-album-and-laurie-lewis)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-SW6bQMT_g

We're delighted to announce **Portland (Oregon) FolkMusic Society's fall Song Festival**, a virtual singing festival on **Zoom on 24 to 26 September**. We're looking forward to connecting with folk singers from around the world, offering concerts, song circles, and workshops on a wide variety of singing traditions. Our guest artists are: Cindy Kallet and Gray Larsen (Americana), Rita Gallagher (Irish), LaRhonda Steele (Gospel, Blues), Michelle Alany (Mid-East, Klesmer), Arietta Ward (Funk, Soul), and William Marsh (multi-genre guitarist and singer). Based on our Spring singing festival (Singtime Frolics) we're expecting almost 400 participants from around the world and offering six guest artist concerts, over 40 workshops and song circles as well as late night singing and a participants' concert. More information and registration here: <https://www.portlandfolkmusic.org/> There is no charge to attend the event but our guest artists would appreciate a donation (and so would we)!





October 23, 2021 Concert in the Wolk Garden
Misner and Smith details to be announced.

In the meantime check them out 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***.

I like their musicality, their harmonies. I think you will too. **(Pat Wolk)**

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 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 **Laurie Lewis** in September, **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)**



SEPTEMBER, 2021, EVENTS

Fri., Sept. 3 Bluegrass in the Park, Red Dog Ash, 6:00-8:00 pm, 901 Fifth Street, Clovis (Liberty Park), bring your chair and your snacks/dinner. **FREE.**

Fri., Sept. 10 Bluegrass in the Park, Ripe for Pickin', 6:00 pm, 901 Fifth Street, Clovis (Liberty Park), bring your chair and your snacks/dinner. **FREE.**

Fri., Sept. 17 Bluegrass in the Park, Uncle Ephus, 6:00 pm, 901 Fifth Street, Clovis (Liberty Park), rescheduled from July. 901 Fifth St, Clovis (Liberty Park), bring your chair and your snacks/dinner. **FREE.**

Sat, Sept. 25, Laurie Lewis and The Right Hands, 7:30 pm, in the Wolk Folk Garden, 6661 N Forkner, Fresno. Bring your chair and snacks. \$20 for advance/FFS members. See Paypal link on fresnofolklore.net for advance payment, no tickets at outlets. \$25.00 at the door for non-members.

Sun., Sept. 26, Evo Bluestein and Terry Barrett, 1-4 pm at Toca Madera Winery, 36140 Ave 9, Madera, CA 93636 **FREE.**

FUTURE 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.**

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, 7:30 pm in the Wolk Folk Garden, 6661 N. Forkner, Fresno. Bring your chair and snacks (pack it in/pack it out). Balkan and Gypsy Music. Tickets sold at door only.

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	Greg & Roberta Lane	Maria Glover & Billie Harris
Allen Lintvedt	Gerry Bill	Maria Wortham
Ann Lamb	Glen Delpit	Mark Eaton
Ann Lewis	Howard Ono	Mary Alice Meuel
Ann & Bill Flayer	Heather Taylor	Mike Newton
Anne Betancourt	Hugh & Jennifer Williamson	Mike Reilly
Anne Merrill & Mike Stepanyan	Janet Horder	Nancy Hatcher
Anne Mosgrove & Kevin Hall	Jeff Adolph	Nancy Waidtlow
Anne Whitehurst	Jeff Hallock & Deb Symes	Nina Powell
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Bea Berrattinni	Lynn Ross	Pat Wolk
Becky Richardson	Joan Rubenstein	Paul & Karen Starcevich
Betsy Hill	Joel Patrick	Penny Critchlow & Mark Olson
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Bill Lulay	John & Andrea McDaniel	Randy & Anita Morris
Bob Garcia	John & Barbara Chookasian	Renata Ley
Bonnie Douglas & Tom Kramer	John & Debi Alden	Richard Calderwood & Karen Hale
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Christy Bardon	Jolien Mason	Shelley Fetterman
Craig & Lisa Poole	Jon Adams	Sherron Brown & Michael Hill
Dan Kramer	Judi Redmond	Stan Allen
Dan Stein	Judy Bezzerides	Stephen Fretz & Lynn Moss
Daniel & Sharon Baradat	Julie Hornback	Steve Barnett
David & Ann Cehrs	Karana Hattersley-Drayton	Sue Wirt
David & Katzi Engel	Kathryn Long-Pence	Susan Coberly
David Kuehl & D.J. Peters	Kathy Wosika & David Fox	Susan Mc Andrew
David Neal Family	Kay Pitts	Susan Tellier
Debbie Jo Wagner	Kelly & Anastasia O'Neill	Susana Peckinpah
Dennis & Harriett Pollock	Kent & Susan Kinney	Thomas Zimoski
Devin & Clair Carroll	Kermit Fenner	Tim & Janet Johnson
Diane Hanson-Barnes	Kevin Campbell	Toni Eames & James van Eseltine
Dick Estel	Kim Bethel	Vickie Cheney
Dolores Torres	Kitty Culleton	
Don Loweberg	LaDonna Rowe	
Eco-Village Project	Larry Cusick Susan Heidebrecht	
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Elaine Fetterman	Laura Silberman	
Elecia Johansson	Lee Liddle	
Finegold Trust	Leo Michon	
Fran Calloway	Leo Pedretti & Ellen Lipp	
Fran Saunders & Paul Indman	Linda Foster	
Frank Gibson	Linda Guerrero & Bill Lehr	
Fresno Music Academy & Arts	Linda & George Sward	
Gabriele Case	Lorenzo Bassman	
Gary Morrison	Lou & Christi Paradise	
George & Linda Sward	Lynda Emanuels	
Georgia Porcella	Lynette Bassman & John Reed	
Gordon & Linda Renfro	Margaret Rivers	
Greg & Bette Merrill	Margaret Tynan	



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