

HVBA Jam Session

2nd Wednesday of each month

*Pirate Canoe Club
Poughkeepsie, NY*

Slow Jam starts at 6PM

Jam ends at 10 PM

Call (845) 691-6784 for details or directions



Bluegrass Between The Bridges

September 20
noon to 6PM
Waryas Park
Poughkeepsie, NY
www.hvbluegrass.org



Check the label for your expiration date. If it is past, please pay \$10 annual membership to keep receiving Jamboree.



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



At press time, several bands have confirmed for Bluegrass Between the Bridges:

2003 marks the fourth year that the HVBA has programmed music for the Arts Fest, which will be held only on Saturday this year. Bluegrass Between the Bridges provides music between noon and 6PM. Afterwards, a featured act (to be named later) will take the main stage for a concert at 6PM. Fireworks at 9:30PM over the Hudson River will close the night.

the Dutchess County Arts Council, the New York State Council on the Arts, The National Endowment for the Arts and the Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association.

This year's "Bluegrass Between the Bridges" promises more bands than ever. The free concert is held in conjunction with **The Bardavon's Hudson River Arts Festival on September 20** at Waryas Park in Poughkeepsie and is produced by The Bardavon and City of Poughkeepsie, in association with

The Cabin Fever Band



The Cabin Fever Band, Oxford Depot, Out to Lunch, Too Blue, Andy Polon, The Dwyer Family, Heinzevino!, Gitfiddle, and Lowry Hamner & Frank Matheis. The Slow Jam Band, regular jammers from the HVBA's Slow Jam will make its debut at the festival. 🎸

Jamboree

The Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association

SUMMER 2003 online at HVBluegrass.org Number 33

Bluegrass Between the Bridges... September 20

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Message from the President Hard Time Blues

In the wake of the poor economy and post 9/11 jitters, many funding programs for music and the arts has fallen on hard times (see Slow Jam Notes, page 5).

Arts, as well as music, has always struggled for appropriate funding. When school budgets come under scrutiny, music and the arts are always the first to go. The recent economic malaise (am I being too gentle here?) only makes matters worse.

So what does this have to do with me, you might ask?

Many arts organizations have been created and continue to exist because people care. People care enough to contribute their hard earned dollars each year so that we can be entertained, or perhaps even inspired.

In light of these difficult times, it is important for each of us to consider making a personal commitment to an organization -- or hopefully organizations -- to help them continue to thrive. Perhaps you like to catch an occasional show at The Bardavon. Or as many do, maybe you enjoy the Highland Cultural Center's successful Hudson Valley Summer Music Series.

If so, I urge you to show that you care about the arts by making an annual donation to any of these fine -- or other -- organizations. The amount of mooney donated is less important than the fact that you care enough to give something. Chances are, if you are reading this 33rd edition of Jamboree, you are a member of

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 **Sign me up!** in the
Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association

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

Enclosed is \$10 for new membership / renewal

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Hudson Valley Bluegrass Association *a 501 (c) 3 not for profit arts and educational organization*

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Winter Summer Spring and Fall*

Jeffrey Anzevino, Editor

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July 23: Heavy Traffic at Randolph Gazebo Summer Concert Series, Randolph, NJ kmando@aol.com

July 24: Falcon Ridge Folk Festival with Northern Lights & Vassar Clemets, Arlo Guthrie, The Walker Family Band, The McKrells, Railroad Earth, more, Long Hill Farm, Hillsdale, NY www.FalconRidgeFolk.com or (860) 364-0366

July 24: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

July 24-27: Ossipee Valley Fest featuring Mountain Heart, Dry Branch Fire Squad, Kruger Brothers, The Shankman Twins, Cornish ME, (207) 625-8656

July 25: Heinzevino! at The Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival, Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie, NY 7-9 PM www.hcc-arts.org

July 25: Mountain Heart w/ The Soy Boyz at Whipperwill Hall Armonk 8PM (914) 273-8690

July 26: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

July 23: Heavy Traffic at Monmouth County Fair, NJ kmando@aol.com

July 27: Bluegrass on the Main Stage, 36th Annual Stratham Fair with Front Range, Blackstone Valley Bluegrass band, Gopher Broke, Northstar, Second Edition, New England Bluegrass Band www.strathamfair.com

July 30-Aug 3: CNYBA's Apple Valley Bluegrass Festival with Bill and Maggie Anderson, Lost Time, Three's Company, Northern Sons, James Reames & The Barn Stormers, more at the Apple Valley Festival Grounds, LaFayette, NY; www.cnyba.com

July 30: Del McCoury Band, Castle Clinton, NYC

July 31: Natalie McMaster at Alive at Five, Albany, NY

July 31-Aug 3: Podunk Fest featuring Grass Routes, Amy Gallatin, Hot Flashes, Laurie Lewis, Larry Stephenson, Peter Rowan, Band, David Grisman Quartet, Herb Peterson, Laurel Canyon, Vassar Clements, East Hartford, CT (860) 291-7350

August 1: Stolen Heart at The Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival, Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie, NY, 7-9 PM www.hcc-arts.org

Aug 1-3: Pemi Valley Bluegrass Festival with The Gibson Brothers, Northern Lights, 2nd Wind, Tater Hill, more, West Campton, NH (603) 726-3471 or russue@pemivalleybluegrass.com

August 3: Taj Mahal at The Egg, Albany, NY www.theegg.org

August 7: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

August 8: John Granata & Gitfiddle at The Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival, Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie, NY 7-9 PM www.hcc-arts.org

Aug 8-10: Willow Creek Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival with Oxford Depot, Heavy Traffic, No Brakes, Too Blue, The Andersons, Cabin Fever, James Reams & The Barnstormers, The Homegrown String Band, Barebones & Wildflowers, Hudson River Cloggers and more; www.willowcreekbluegrass.com (845) 783-9054

Aug 8-10: Perkinstock Bluegrass and Old Time Festival with Rustic Harmony, North Star, Blistered Fingers, more Penobscot, ME (207) 326-8609

August 9: Big Deep at Alternative Energy Festival, The Evergreen, Fleischmanns, NY (845) 254-5392

August 10: Big Deep at Community Supported Agriculture Benefit, New Paltz, NY (845) 255-8769

August 10: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

August 15: Too Blue at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

August 15-17: Smith Meeting House Bluegrass Festival with Late Night radio, Bagboys, Dyer Switch, Southern Rail, Crown Point and more (603) 224-8982

August 18: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

August 21-24: Blistered Fingers Bluegrass Festival with Bluegrass Cardinals Reunion, The Larry Stephenson Band, The Lonesome River Band, The Cabin Fever Band, Goldwing Express, more, Silver Spur Riding Club, Sidney ME (207)

August 22: Big Deep at Stissing Mountain House, Pine Plains, NY

August 23: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

August 30: James Reams & The Barnstormers at Music in the Hills, Wilderness Bluegrass & RV Park, Mt Lookout, WV

August 31: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

September 4: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

September 12-14: Catskill Mountain Bluegrass Festival with The James King Band, Paul Adkins, Bob Paisley & Southern Grass, Carolina Road Band, The Bluegrass Brothers, Junior Barber and Gary Ferguson, more Accord, NY (845) 687-9781

September 14: James Reams & The Barnstormers live on WFDU, 89.1FM, Teaneck, NJ. Check www.wfdu.fm/

September 20: James Reams & The Barnstormers at the 6th Annual Park Slope Old Time/Bluegrass Jamboree, Brooklyn, NY

September 20: Bluegrass between the Bridges with The Cabin Fever Band, Out to Lunch, Oxford Depot, Too Blue, Heinzevino!, The Dwyer Family, Lowry Hammer & Frank Matheis, Gitfiddle, and The Slow Jam Band. Waryas Park, Poughkeepsie, NY noon-6PM, FREE hvba@optonline.net or (845) 691-6784

Situation wanted

Guitarist/drummer looking to join or form a band in the style of New Riders of The Purple Sage, The Grateful Dead, Doc Watson, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Poco, John Fogarty, Kingfish, etc.

Call Bob at (845) 739-5067

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 hvbluegrass@aol.com

Ongoing Jams, Dances, Gigs etc.

2nd Wednesday 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

Last Monday of each month: Orrin Star 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, Banta's Steak 'n Stein, Poughkeepsie, NY

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

2rd & 4th Tuesday of Each Month: Bluegrass Jam at The Uptown Cafe, Kingston, NY (845) 679-6696

4rd 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 The Sheriff at The Baggot Inn, Manhattan 9 PM

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

Every other Thursday: Heinzevino! at Gadaletto's Seafood, New Paltz, NY 6-9 PM (845) 255-1717 691-6784

Every other weekend: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood, New Paltz, NY 6-10 PM (845) 255-1717

1st Friday of Every Month: North Country Music's Bluegrass Jam, St. Luke's Church, (914) 276-2239

1st Friday: Fais Do Do with Dr. Romo and the Cajun Swing Orchestra, Woodstock Community Center, Woodstock, NY 8 PM (845) 658-3392

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. Philips Church Parish House, Route 9D, Garrison, NY (845) 265-4011, 265-7201, 265-0032

2nd Saturday of Every Month: Walkabout Clearwater,

Katonah, 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 with Tom Hanway 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!!

July 10: Kevin & Carol Becker at The Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival, Town's Field, Highland, NY 7-9 PM www.hcc-arts.org

July 11: Bill & Maggie Anderson at Cornell Arts Quad, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (607) 898-5754

July 11-13: 9th Annual Basin Bluegrass Festival with Lonesome Whistle, Southern Rail, James Reams & The Barnstormers, Cabin Fever and more; Brandon VT (802) 247-3275 or www.brandon.org/bluegrass.htm

July 13: Big Deep at Gadaletto's Seafood Restaurant, New Paltz, NY 6PM (845) 255-1717

July 16: Tony Rice at BB King's Blues Club, NYC

July 17: Big Apple'achia at The Parkside Lounge, NYC

July 17-20: Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival with Dry Branch Fire Squad, Hot Rize Reunion, Jerry Douglas Band, Peter Rowan's Texas Trio, with Tony Rice, Del McCoury Band, The Gibson Brothers many more (888) 946-8495 or www.greyfoxbluegrass.com

July 18-20: White's Beach Fest featuring 2nd Edition, Back to Basics, Kathadin Valley Boys, North Stars, Evergreen, more, Brunswick, ME (207) 729-0415

July 18-20: Potato Blossom Fest featuring Bob Paisley, Wildfire, Seth Sawyer Band, White Mountain Bluegrass, Blistered Fingers, Fort Fairfield, ME (207) 472-3802

July 20: Blue Highway at Norwood Village Band Shell, Norwood, NY (615) 327-4646

July 23-27: Rick and Carol's Bluegrass/Country Music Festival with Three's Company, Cabin Fever Band, Pat Ashley Band, Clay Smith, Smokey Greene and more, Fort Ann, NY (518) 793-8987 or 745-8043

Where Does the Money Go?

Chris Scheu, VP and Treasurer

As treasurer of the HVBA for the past 3 years I have often been asked by members, "Say Chris, where does that \$10 bill I kick in every year go?" Actually, to be truthful I've never been asked that. But I know every one is privately speculating about their sawbuck.

Last year was typical in most ways except we actually had less income than outgo.

In a normal year the organization spends \$950 on postage and printing of Jamboree, \$100 that we donated to radio stations WFDU (Fairleigh Dickenson University in Teaneck, NJ) and WAMC (Northeast Public Radio) to support their bluegrass programming, \$150 for IBMA dues and last year \$1600 to musicians and bands who appeared at our fundraiser and Bluegrass Between the Bridges, the annual riverfront festival in Poughkeepsie. Throw in the rental of sound systems and some miscellaneous items the HVBA's total expenses in 2002 were \$2900.

Our two primary sources of income are the dues from roughly 180 members (if you're in arrears, pay up!) and the fundraiser which

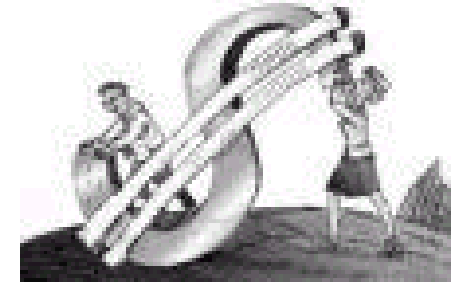
Hard Time Blues

member of the HVBA. If not, why not consider joining?

Many of us that like "arternative music," such as bluegrass and Americana have few places to turn on the radio dial for sounds that please our ears. Thank goodness for independent radio, such as WKZE, as well as public radio stations, like WAMC, and WFDU.


With recent FCC ruling allowing the further consolidation of the media, fewer and fewer people will own radio stations and, in fact, most of the music we hear and news we get is from a few sources owned by big business.

The chilling effect is when an artist or group



was held last year at the New Paltz Grill and brought in \$500. Some generous donations and raffles added almost \$400. I'll do the math. Income: \$2700. Expenses: \$2900.

Because the Riverfest was canceled in 2001 due to the September 11th attacks on America, we had a reserve and were able to cover all expenses in 2002.

2003 looks good for our bank account, a successful fundraiser at Banta's Steak and Stein which raised \$800 got the year off to a good start. There have been rumors of a picnic which I think we can spend a few dollars on and more great information packed issues of Jamboree, for just \$10 per year, a mere bag of shells. 

continued from page 2

plays a song, or makes a statement critical of government policy, their music, or art as the case may be, can go down the tubes with one flush by a music programmer as the Dixie Chicks have recently learned.

Support public radio and independent radio so that they remain strong. Educate yourself about media consolidation so that, when the time comes, you can express your views intelligently.

Choose your media wisely.

Jeffrey Anzevino

Jamming 101

Dobro Jeff

With the enormous popularity of the Slow Jam this seems to be the perfect opportunity to dust off The Ten Jammandments, by Robert Rosenberg and Charlie Hall. We previously published the Jammandments back in *Jamboree* 13 in the fall of '97. However with more newcomers than ever picking at our Slow Jam, a refresher is in order.

Many of The Ten Jammandments are based on courtesy and common sense. Welcome others (VII). Listen to others (VI). Take turns choosing songs (III). Other Jammandments are key to good musicianship. Play in tune (I). Keep Steady rhythm (II). Don't speed (IV). Signal solos (V).

In order to get the most of our Slow Jams I have been suggesting that each song should be arranged, preferably by the caller, so that the pickers know who will be taking solos (breaks) and when. This avoids getting to that awkward moment when everyone is playing rhythm looking around as if to beg someone to take a solo. As an aside, one of the differences between bluegrass and old time music is that in bluegrass a single soloist is supported by rhythm provided by the other musicians. Everyone plays together all the time in old time music. Of course, there are exceptions.

Communication is key. Music is, after all, communication through melody, harmony, rhythm and vocals. Musicians on a stage communicate with each other. While at first it may seem difficult for a beginning soloist to look to the next person in the circle to "take the handoff," this will come more easily with practice and experience. In our band many arrangements are "on the fly" and we must know when to give and receive signals.

Live by The Ten Jammandments. 🎸

The Ten Jammandments

I. Thou Shalt Tune Thy Instrument.

Electronic tuners make this easy.

II. Thou Shalt Keep Steady Rhythm.

Count beats if necessary.

III. Thou Shalt Take Turns Choosing Songs.

Announce the key.

Vocalists always choose their key.

Choose a song you can complete.

IV. Thou Shalt Not Speed.

Start songs at a reasonable tempo.

Speed up according to abilities.

V. Thou Shalt Signal Who Has The Solo.

Follow a pattern when taking solo leads.

VI. Thou Shalt Listen To Others.

If you can't hear the lead, consider yourself too loud.

VII. Thou Shalt Welcome Others.

Include everyone in your jam. Help everyone sound as good as they can.

VIII. Thou Shalt Not Steal Other Musicians

From An Active Jam. With time, players move around anyway.

IX. Thou Shalt Try New Material.

Original & different tunes are OK occasionally.

X. Thou Shalt Be Considerate Of Pickers.

Explain when you're rehearsing, not jamming. Help beginners.

Robert Rosenberg and Charlie Hall

www.paulhawthorne.com/jammandments.html

Two Dollar Goat

\$2GOAT

www.twodollargoat.com

Bluegrass music is fun and Two Dollar Goat proves it. The CD is not highly produced -- some might call it a "homegrown production" -- but the music does not suffer. In fact, the 23 vocal tunes packed onto this CD are hoof-tappin' good. Many tunes are recorded before a live audience, which is always appreciative. Coursing through the music is a good-time vibe so characteristic of bluegrass music.

The band consists of Iaian Birchwood (mandolin), Leigh Draper (bass, banjo) and Kurtus Ulrich (guitar, vocals). Goat's strong suits are many: driving rhythm, hot mandolin solos, smooth vocal harmonies, and a diverse and interesting repertoire. For mandolin players, this CD is a must as the band leans heavily on Birchwood for solo work. Goat cooks with driving mando chops, which work nicely on the off beats with Draper's steady bass.

The many chestnuts found here will delight the bluegrass lover: *Long Journey Home*, *Slewfoot*, *High Lonesome Sound*, *Brown's Ferry Blues*, *Walking the Dog* and *Sophronie*. Other songs come from the jug band (*Stealin'*, *Deep Ellem Blues*), old-time (*Wild Bill Jones*), and folk-rock (*Lonesome LA Cowboy*) genres to demonstrate Goat's versatility.

The CD contains several nice surprises. Listen for a mystery fiddler sawing off a bit of *Caravan in Climbing Up a Mountain*. *Don't Blame Me*, obviously of more recent vintage than most found on the CD, was a new song to me, but I love the music and the tongue-in-cheek message -- that, if we look hard enough, we can explain away any circumstance as someone else's fault. Perhaps the biggest surprise is *Scooby Doo*, obviously from the kids' cartoon show. At the end of the CD, *Naming the Goat* provides a conversation where, apparently, the members come upon the



**Long Journey Home
Dance in the Middle
Don't Blame Me
Slewfoot
Lonesome LA Cowboy
Brown-Eyed Rabbit
High Lonesome Sound
Brown's Ferry Blues
Walkin' the Dog
How Mountain Girls
Can Love
Climbin' Up the Mountain
Joking Henry
Willin'
Stealin'
Sophronie
Wild Bill Jones
Walk Beside Me
A Huge Throbbing Force
Tear My Stillhouse Down
Deep Ellem Blues
Backslidin' Bill
Scooby Doo
Naming the Goat**

name of the band. This provides a nice, personal touch.

The various chattering, banter, comments, and spontaneous laughter found throughout the CD do not hinder the listener's enjoyment. To the contrary, these nuggets only add to the value of Two Dollar Goat and make the CD that much more fun to listen to.

www.twodollargoat.com

Long Time

Kat Mills

KM-0003

Appropriately named, Kat Mills' long awaited CD *Long Time* combines excellent songwriting, first-rate musicianship, high quality production in a most professional package.

Kat is a popular and well known singer songwriter who until last summer lived in the Hudson Valley and had been a member of the award winning quartet Grass. She also performed on a regular basis in a duo with Will Solomon.

Now, Kat's music rings throughtout the Blue Ridge as she has taken up residence with husband Nick in Blacksburg, Virginia. But, we have been fortunate to have had the benefit of two Kat Mills' Hudson Valley tours since April. Her most recent tour, in which she played at Gadaletto's and The Beech Tree Grill among other places, marked the release of *Long Time*, a project she had worked on for, well, a long time.

Don't expect a bluegrass CD here. While Kat has already proven herself as an excellent bluegrass singer and rhythm player, her real strength is in her songwriting and vocals and that's where *Long Time* shines. The strong support from an impressive cast of studio musicians and strong production values add icing to the cake.

Joining Kat on the CD are co-producer Scott Petito, who plays bass guitars, organ, 12-string guitar, slide and percussion. Kat's long-time pickin' pal Will Solomon joins in on the fun on mandolin. Rachel Handman, well-known for her fiddling and vocals on in Barebones and Wildflowers plays violin. Brian Melick plays percussion.

Probably is my favorite cut on the CD. Will Solomon's fine mandolin fills give the song a lilting feel and provides a hint of Mills' bluegrass roots.

Next Life kicks off with a Spanish sounding riff before Kat's vocals grab your attention. The



**You Are
River Runs Dry
Troubadour
Long Time
Cold World
Wish
Probably
Telephone Man
War Song
Free Ideas
Secrets
Shades
Next Life**

song ponders all the things we want to accomplish in life, "too many dreams for just one lifetime," but are saved for the next life. Here, Kat hopes to "learn to solo instead of just strum." Not to worry Kat. When you sing like an angel and keep rhythm like a machine you don't need the hot licks.

Don't expect a bluegrass sound and you won't be disappointed. Instead *Long Time* is reminiscent of the most reknowned female vocalists, such as -- we'll let you listen and decide.

Kat's presentation of the CD in a cardboard tri-fold case with a '60's style cover, posterized sepia tone portraits inside is well done. She leaves us with parting words of wisdom in the liner note: "Teach peace, tread lightly, and remember who you are." Well said, Kat. And well done.

www.sweetcut.com/kat

Slow Jam Notes

John Granata

As I'm preparing this piece I see out my window a very pleasant sunny day, the first I've seen in more than four days. In my line of vision is an instrument stand holding three instruments. One is a vintage Guild electric hollow body bass, that while is in very playable condition doesn't get played very often any more. It's flat wound strings haven't been changed since the mid eighties. One of the other instruments is a Fender acoustic six string guitar. It's playable also, but it needs strings and at least a good setup. It doesn't get played much either. The third instrument on that stand is a mandolin that is a "catch 22" of sorts. I don't play it much because the strings need to be changed. I don't change them because I don't play it very often. The only thing between these instruments in their present condition and what condition they could be in is money!

O-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-h-h there he goes using the "M" word!

Speaking of money . . . I learned recently that the Hudson River Arts Festival, of which "Bluegrass Between the Bridges" is a part, has been trimmed back to just one day this year due to funding cutbacks. Likewise, The Highland Cultural Center's (HCC) Hudson Valley Summer Music Festival has been affected this year. Speaking of the HCC, I was delighted to see by the turnout at the photo shoot/media reception that local musicians are coming out to play anyway. I was there, GitFiddle was represented as well as Heinzevino! and many other talented players and bands.

So what does this have to do with Slow Jamming?? This!

In reading the definition for the word "jammer," you will notice that the musical

context is pretty far down the list, and rather vague too. As a noun, in regard to music, a **jammer** is someone that participates in **jam sessions**. Jam sessions can be described as when two or more musicians play music together in a casual manner (as opposed to a rehearsed, well-practiced manner). To me, a **jammer** is **anyone who loves music enough to try and play an instrument to the best of their ability**. Jamming is essential to become, and in continuing to be a good musician. It's where you find your real limitations, and are free to exceed them. It's where you become so intimate with your instrument, you find you can be self-expressive. You could say it's a kind of "conversation" between musicians... in a language most people don't really know, yet understand on many levels; even on the Slow Jam level-- especially on the Slow Jam level.

Like the instruments on that stand most players are between what they are and what they will be. I haven't met a player yet who is satisfied with their current ability. It's fun to play for the money (yeah it is) but the real love for music manifests itself in a good jam. No egos, no stars, just a love for the music and the joy of playing it. Yeah! The fun of it, goofs and all. We are not competing to see who the best player is, (we shouldn't be anyway) we are making contributions to a common activity, in this case a song. You may find that you have nothing to contribute, or having an "off" day musically, no problem. Listening is as much of the learning experience as practicing. Soon what you listen to becomes such a part of you it flows out through your instrument. . . possibly at the next jam! Live it...love it...enjoy itand...**JAM ON!** 🎸

News Briefs

New Radio Show

Jonah Bruno will host a weekly radio show, The Catskill Mountain Bluegrass Jam, on WDST 100.1FM every Sunday evening. At press time the time of the show was not known, but the first show may air on Sunday July 19. Inquiries regarding opportunities to sponsor the show should be emailed to jonah@ulster.net



Twelve Tunes from Three Fellas

Barry Mitterhoff, Wayne Fugate and Michael Sassano have written a book of twelve tunes entitled appropriately enough, *Twelve Tunes from Three Fellas*. The book includes both tablature for mandolin and standard musical notation, plus photos of the authors and their instruments, and notes about the tunes. The book can be ordered by emailing Wayne at wjf1@optonline.net.



Kat Mills CD Released

At last, Kat Mills' CD has been released. Kat toured the Hudson Valley during June to promote the disc as well as to perform at several venues and see old friends. The CD includes guest musicians Rachel Handman, Will Solomon, Brian Melick and Scott Petito. Twelve of the 13 songs were written by kat. The CD was recorded and mixed by Scott Petito at NRS recording studio in Catskill, NY. Kat and Scott coproduced the disc.

See page 12 for Jamboree's review of the

CD. Visit Kat's website at www.sweetcut.com/kat for more information.

Willow Creek Festival

The Fourth Annual Willow Creek Bluegrass Festival will be held August 8-11 at the Orange County Farmers' Museum on Route 17K in Montgomery, NY. The festival offers great camping, shade and good music from several HVBA favorites, James Reams & The Barnstormers, Mike Burns & North Country, No Brakes, as well as other bands, such as Oxford Depot, The Cabin Fever Band, and Heavy Traffic. Kids activities abound at Willow Creek, so bring the whole family. More information can be found at www.willowcreekbluegrass.com



Teachers wanted

We frequently receive calls from people looking to take banjo, fiddle, or guitar lessons. As a service to our members who are looking to learn an instrument, we would like to publish a list of those seeking to provide lessons to eager students.

Do you give lessons on fiddle, banjo, mandolin, guitar, dobro, bass, or perhaps some other instrument? Even vocal training? If so drop us a line at hvba@optonline.net or call (845) 691-6784 and provide us the details. Maybe we can connect you with a student.

Big Spike Bluegrass

Freeman Corey dropped us a line to say he was playing with Big Spike Bluegrass, based in Northern Vermont. The band features hard driving rhythms, three- and four-part harmonies anr twin fiddles and solid original material. Bill Gaston, Kirk Lord, Neil Rossi, and Pete Langdell are Freeman's bandmates in Big Spike Bluegrass.

Songs About Fishing

Big Trout Radio

TT0315-2

I had never bought a CD in a fishing store before. But after getting off the hook without spending a fortune stringing up my fly rod in Don's Tackle Shop, the artwork on the CD on the counter caught my eye. I immediately recognized it as the art of Rhinebeck artist, New Yorker cartoonist and friend of the HVBA, Elwood Smith.

That Cindy Cashdollar is featured on this CD by Artie Traum, Chris Shaw and Tom Akstens further piqued my interest. And the CD included *Fishin' Blues* and *Crawdad* -- two of my favorite songs -- which sealed the deal.

The liner notes tell the tale of a 10-watt radio station in the mountains of trout country that piggybacked onto a 50,000 watt clear-channel signal and became an overnight sensation from Montauk to Missoula. Carlton Munson owned the station and has exclusively played songs about fish and fishing since he went on the air in 1959 using a mail-order transmitter he assembled himself. The FCC cracked down on Carlton, but he still transmits to a four mile radius. These songs are reportedly compiled from Big Trout radio's archives. OK. I'm pretty gullible, but do I get the impression that this is a fish story?

But, there's nothing fishy about the music. From the opening station identification, a harmoniously sung "Big Trout Ray-dee-yo" (complete with stereophonic splash to the last notes of *Leave This World* behind, this collection of songs celebrates the joys of fishing in fine fashion.

Indeed, as I had hoped *Fishin' Blues* rises to the top like a trout feeding on newly hatched mayflies. Artie Traum sings lead vocals and John Sebastian's banjo, John Kirk's fiddle, TomAkstens' mandolin transform Taj Mahal's blues tune into a robust, bouncy and bluesey bluegrass favorite. Punctuated by chuckles,



**I'm a Goin' Fishin'
Big Old Trout
Fishin's Just a Waste
of Time
Fishin' Blues
The Yellow Mailbox
Dumb Luck
Ain't No Sure Thing
On the Esopus
Walter
Hook and Line
My Old Cane Pole
Crawdad
Gone Fishin' Today
Leave this World Behind**

comments and Bob Wills-like remarks, the song exemplifies how much fun bluegrass music is supposed to be. Upon completion of the recording of *Fishin' Blues* the cast erupts into laughter, which is left in the final mix providing a nice touch.

Most other tunes are blues (*Big Old Trout*, *My Old Cane Pole*, and *Fishin's Just a Waste of Time*), old-timey (*Hook the Line*), or ballads (*On the Esopus*).

While the music is outstanding, those those who understand the ways of fishing will get more from the messages in the songs. It's also a great CD for kids of all ages.

www.bigtroutradio.com

Bluegrass Journey

project. Schumer, a research scientist and eye surgeon, had no film production experience, but he brought a wealth of other skills to the project. A talented still photographer and life-long guitar player, he possessed a keen, inquisitive intelligence and "can-do" attitude. Piece by piece, together they figured out how to make a movie.

They formed a production company and financed the film through private investment. Thanks to the initial entrée provided by ABC News, they further developed their contacts in the bluegrass world and were welcomed into the inner circle of top musicians and industry leaders. They were granted complete access to film whatever they chose.

Oxenberg and Schumer shot the bulk of their material in 2000. They worked with camera and soundmen that Oxenberg had come to know through her years in network television. The process was true documentary, cinema-verité style. They let the cameras roll freely, collecting as much good footage as they could, which they later shaped in the edit room.

In 2002, they brought on editor and co-director Nancy Kennedy. Her feature film credits included the Sundance Audience award winner *Thank You and Goodnight*, and *Riding the Rails*, a documentary about teenage hobos during the Depression Era, which also played at Sundance and won the LA Film Critics Award for Best Documentary in 1999. Kennedy, a classically trained musician, immediately and intuitively grasped what Oxenberg and Schumer were hoping to achieve and brought her own considerable narrative, aesthetic

and technical skills to the project. The editing took eight months.

The multi-track live recordings were mixed in Nashville, Tennessee by veteran recording engineer Bil VornDick, whose credits read like a Who's Who of the Nashville music industry.

All in all they shot 142 hours of footage. The final film is 86 minutes long.

The film is being represented for theatrical and television distribution by Richard Abramowitz, of Abramorama, Inc. Previous projects he's worked on include John Sayles' *The Brother From Another Planet* and *Matewan*, Jonathan Demme's *Stop Making Sense* and *Swimming to Cambodia*, Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, and Merchant Ivory's *A Room With A View*. Richard can be contacted at: abramorama@aol.com, or at Abramorama, Inc., 22 Green Valley Road, Armonk, NY 10504; (914) 273-9545; fax: (914) 273-1351.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article adopted from the website www.bluegrassjourney.com Check it out for more great stuff!

For more information visit the website or contact Ruth Oxenberg or Rob Schumer through the film's website contact link or at the above numbers.



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Turn Your Radio On!

WAMC 90.3 FM, Albany, NY

WAMC Bluegrass Time.....Sundays 1 -3 PM
Dancing on the Air, w/ Jay & Molly
....2nd Wednesday each month 9-10:30 PM
Hudson River Sampler..Saturdays 8-10:30P M
A Prairie Home Companion
.....Sat 6-8PM and Sun 3-5 PM
Rock 'n' Roots..... Sundays 10-11 PM
The Tao of Tao...3th Weds of ea mo 8-10 PM
Thistle & Shamrock.....Sundays 7-8 PM

WHVW 950AM, Hyde Park, NY

Pirate Joe Radio Show.Weekdays3-6 PM
Darwin Lee.....Sundays 3-6 PM

WKZE 98.1 FM, Sharon, CT

Frank's Picks.....Fridays 7-11 PM
Harmony Jct w/ Dick Hermans.Th 7-10PM
Plus, bluegrass mixed in with regular,
roots, and Americana programming

WTBQ 1110 AM, Florida, NY

Doctor Nick.....Saturdays 6-7:30 AM

WKCR 89.9 FM, Columbia U, NYC

www.columbia.edu/cu/wkcr.....24 hrs/day
Moonshine.....Sundays 10-12 Noon
Honky Tonkin'.....Tuesdays 9:30-11 PM
Tennessee Border.....Sundays Noon-2PM

WKVR 91.3 FM, Vassar College, Pok., NY

Hudson Valley Rag Shop.....Tues 5:30-8 PM
Vince Vincent's Jukebox Jamboree.Fri 7-9P

WFDU 89.1 FM, Teaneck, NJ

Carol Beauregard.....Thursdays 6-9 AM
Kim Gluckler.....Fridays 9 AM-1 PM
Earl Karlsen.....Saturdays 6-9 AM

WCNY-FM 91.3 Syracuse; 89.5 Utica, etc.

Bill Knowlton's Bluegrass Ramble
.....Sundays 9-midnight

WPKN 89.5 FM

Chris Tesky.....Wednesdays 7-10 PM

WUSB 90.1 FM

Buddy Merriam.....Wednesdays 6:30 - 8 PM

WRPI 91.5 FM, Troy, NY

Andy Hawley.....Saturdays 7-10 AM

WLNL 1000 AM, Horseheads, NY

Bruce Cutler, Gospel Doin's, ...Sun 2-3 PM

WZZZ 1300 AM, Fulton, NY

B. Cutler, Gospel Doin's .Sundays 8-8:30 AM

WHGL 100.3 FM, Troy, PA

B. Cutler, Classic Clips..... .Sundays 6 AM

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The Dwyer Family
Andy Polon
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& Lowry Hamner
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Gitfiddle

plus other surprise guests

For information call (845) 691-6784
or email hvba@optonline.net

Local filmmakers complete Bluegrass Journey



Now appearing:
**Bluegrass
Journey**

July 14-17, 10PM
The Jacob Burns Film Center
364 Manville Road
Pleasantville, NY
www.burnsfilmcenter.org
(914) 747-5555

The Grey Fox Bluegrass
Festival
www.greyfoxbbluegrass.com

First-time filmmakers Ruth Oxenberg and Rob Schumer directed *Bluegrass Journey*, a portrait of the contemporary bluegrass music scene. The film features extended and intimately captured performances by The Del McCoury Band, Nickel Creek, Jerry Douglas, Tim O'Brien, Peter Rowan, Tony Rice, Rhonda Vincent, The Lonesome River Band, Bob Paisley and the Southern Grass, and many others.

Bluegrass Journey had its World Premiere at the Maui Film Festival in Maui, Hawaii on Saturday, June 14.

In the tradition of *Woodstock*, *The Last Waltz*, and *Jazz On A Summers Day*, *Bluegrass Journey* weaves together high energy and intimately captured extended musical performances, verité-style cinematography, and interviews to depict and celebrate a broad cross-section of the contemporary bluegrass music scene. Shot mainly

at the Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival in upstate New York, and at the annual International Bluegrass Music Association's convention in Kentucky, this affectionate film reveals breathtaking musical virtuosity, passionate and joyous audience dedication, and the rich artistry and spirit that infuse one of America's great musical genres.

Directors Ruth Oxenberg and Rob Schumer, a husband and wife team, fell into bluegrass music and fell in love with it nine years ago when they were planning their wedding. They were to be married in the country, outdoors, and they were looking for a type of music that fit the occasion.

As native New Yorkers, they'd had little exposure to bluegrass, but somehow it seemed right. As they searched for a band, they began to delve deeper and deeper into the music, finding in the genre a richness of tradition and a virtuoso performance style that was unadorned, fresh, and exciting. This

was well before the phenomenon of *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* which introduced many new people to the genre.

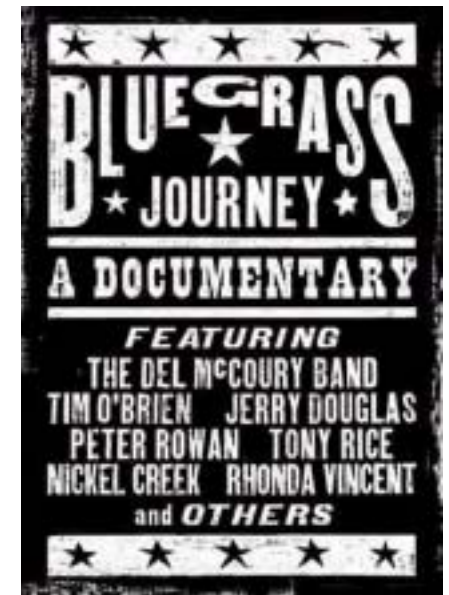
Oxenberg, at the time, was a producer for ABC News World News Tonight with Peter Jennings. She became so taken with bluegrass that she pitched a story about it to Peter, who, to her surprise, was a bluegrass fan. The news piece aired in September 1996. While working on it, she and her husband realized that the subject matter was rich enough to deserve treatment in a longer film. Thus the idea for the documentary was born.

Oxenberg and Schumer wanted to make a film in the style of the classic music documentaries of the 1950s and '60s. Although *Bluegrass Journey* touches on the history of the music, it is an "experience film." The focus is today's bluegrass scene, and the artists portrayed are amongst the top musicians of bluegrass' third and fourth generations. Del McCoury played with Bill

Monroe in the early 60s, but for the past twenty years his very successful band has included his two sons. The band Nickel Creek, which won a Grammy this year for Best Contemporary Folk Album, features child prodigies Chris Thile and the brother and sister Sean and Sara Watkins. Dobro virtuoso Jerry Douglas is now featured in Alison Krauss' band, Union Station.

It took Oxenberg and Schumer seven years to make the film. Although Oxenberg had 18 years of experience producing for network television, including stints at ABC News Turning Point, Good Morning America, NBC News Today Show, and Turner Broadcasting System, she had never done an independent

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www.bluegrassjourney.com



