



# NEWSLETTER #308

October 2010

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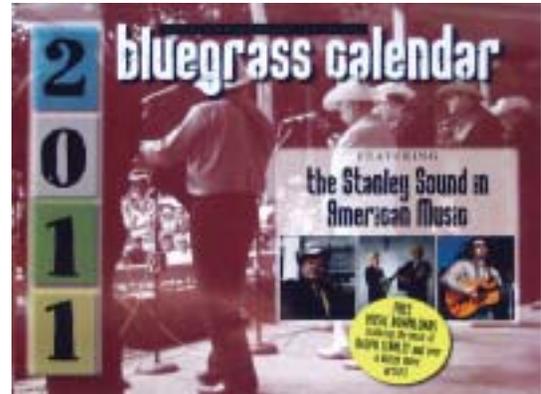
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**OUR NEW WEB SITE** We have had to implement a new web site recently, and as expected there are always some bugs to work out of the system. (Our old web site was over 10 years old and was not designed to handle the number of records, books and DVDs that we now carry.) We know that many of our customers hate to see change, and we are like that in many ways too. But the new site will enable us to add some nice features in the future, and will keep better track of customers, and our growing inventory. We would like to stress that *we welcome suggestions and constructive criticism* from our customers worldwide—there are always things that can be added and/or improved.

**A SALE OF OLD VINYL** For those who love the sound and feel of vinyl, and those who still collect and play old LPs, we have a neat new list of these at set sale. These are sealed, store stock records and include items by Flatt & Scruggs, the Stanley Brothers, Bill Monroe, the Lewis Family and many others including some obscure odd-label LPs. If interested, just request our “**SET SALE M**” .

**NEW BUMPER STICKERS** We now have some attractive new bumper stickers that are just **\$ 1.00 each** with your order. These are different from what we have had before, with a brilliant Red, White and Black format featuring our popular train logo.

**2011 BLUEGRASS CALENDAR** (pub. By Copper Creek) Though he skipped publishing a calendar for 2010, Gary Reid of Copper Creek Records has returned with another nice one for the coming year 2011, again focusing in on his favorite subject, *The Stanley Brothers*. There’s a nice assortment of photos of Ralph & Carter together and separately, as well as with George Shuffler, Larry Sparks and others, all attractively presented with all sorts of birthdays and dates of important milestones. Coming along with the calendar is a provision to download a special Stanley song each month. A nice item for the Bluegrass fan. **\$ 10.00**



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## SPECIAL SALE ON ALL REBEL-7500 SERIES CDs

This month only we are offering all records in **REBEL'S 7500 series** at a **SPECIAL SALE PRICE** of just **\$ 7.00 per CD**. That means a savings of \$ 3.00 per CD off our already discounted price! There is no minimum and no limit as to how many you can buy, and any items you order here CAN be applied towards your special offer (buy 6 records and get a 7<sup>th</sup> CD free). Offer ends NOV 29, 2010. Take advantage of this special offer !

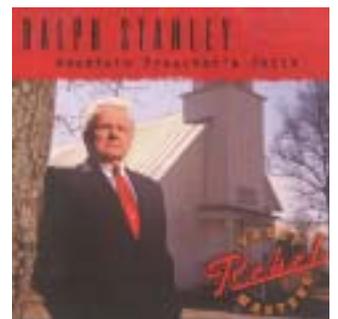
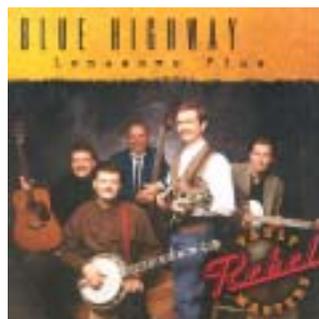
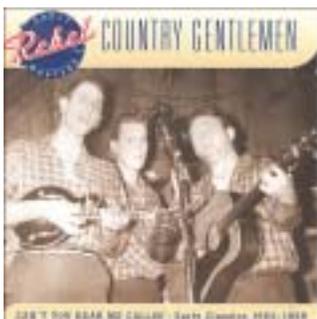
**REBEL's 7500 SERIES** is their Budget series devoted primarily to outstanding collections of classic Bluegrass recordings. Many of the discs are extra-length "Best Of" or retrospective collections that include up to 16 or 18 tracks They represent some of the finest examples of Bluegrass music on the market today!

REB-7501	SONGS OF THE CIVIL WAR	REB-7513	JIMMY ARNOLD "Ridin' With Old Mosby"
REB-7502	LARRY SPARKS "The Old Church Yard"	REB-7514	BOYS FROM INDIANA "Good Time Blues"
REB-7503	DEL McCOURY "My Dixie Home"	REB-7515	THE MARSHALL FAMILY—Vol. 2
REB-7505	THE MARSHALL FAMILY—Vol. 1	REB-7516	SELDOM SCENE "Different Roads"
REB-7506	RHONDA VINCENT "My Blue Tears"	REB-7517	RALPH STANLEY "Mt. Preacher's Child"
REB-7507	A CAPPELLA GOSPEL COLLECTION	REB-7519	DAVE EVANS & RIVER BEND "Vetco Years"
REB-7508	BEST OF EARLY COUNTRY GENTLEMEN	REB-7520	RALPH STANLEY "Old Time Pickin'"
REB-7509	IIIRD TYME OUT "Erase The Miles"	REB-7522	BEST OF LARRY SPARKS
REB-7510	DARLK AS A DUNGEON Mining Songs	REB-7523	MAC WISEMAN "Hits & Heartsongs"
REB-7511	THE EASTER BROS. "Holding Up The Ladder"	REB-7524	LOST & FOUND "Down On Sawmill Road"
REB-7512	BLUE HIGHWAY "Lonesome Pine"		

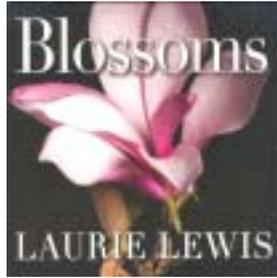
The two **Larry Sparks** CDs provide a great representation of some of Larry's best work: His "Best Of" includes great songs like A FACE IN THE CROWD, BLUE VIRGINIA BLUES, TENNESSEE 1949 and JOHN DEERE TRACTOR, while REB-7502 features some of his many gospel classics like I'VE JUST SEEN THE ROCK OF AGES, THE OLD CHURCH YARD and THE TESTING TIMES. Just about all of the **Marshall Family's** best work is to be found on REB-7505 and REB-7515, such as I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU LORD, GLORYLAND and AMAZING GRACE. Another fine Bluegrass gospel compilation is the **Easter Brothers** CD, with their hit THEY'RE HOLDING UP THE LADDER. And for those who love a cappella gospel, REB-7507 is a gem, with wonderful cuts by the **Country Gentlemen, Paul Williams, The Forbes Family, Ralph Stanley** and others.

REBEL-7506 **Rhonda Vincent** is a good selection of the best songs from the 4 CDs that she made for REBEL. Other great single artist offerings include a "Best of" the first three albums that **Blue Highway** made, including superb songs like SOMEDAY, LONESOME PINE and IN THE GRAVEL YARD, and there is great early material from **Del McCoury** on his "My Dixie Home" CD. REB-7509 by **IIIRD TYME OUT** has cuts from their first three records, including the fine ERASE THE MILES, MOUNDSVILLE PEN and GRANDPA'S MANDOLIN. **The Boys From Indiana's** hit ATLANTA IS BURNING is included on the excellent collection of their early King Bluegrass recordings. **Mac Wiseman's** "Hits & Heartsongs (REB-7523) is a super collection of 14 songs that he recorded in the 1970s with the Shenandoah Cutups, and REB-7519 includes the best tracks from Dave Evans' first recordings as a solo act, cut for Cincinnati's Vetco Label (99 YEARS, BARABARA ALLEN and HIGHWAY 52 among them).

**Ralph Stanley** is well represented by two outstanding CDs that showcase his old-time banjo picking (REB-7520) and a lovely collection of great gospel songs like I'LL WEAR A WHITE ROBE and WALKJING UP THIS HILL ON DECORATION DAY (REB-7517). The impressive banjo talents of the late **Jimmy Arnold** can be heard on REB-7513 "Ridin' With Old Mosby", and some of the fine songs cut early on the by the **Country Gentlemen** are to be found on REB-7508. A recently released anthology of songs about mining contains wonderful performances by such groups as **Blue Highway, Steep Canyon Rangers, Sparks, David Davis, the Seldom Scene and Keith Whitley & Ricky Skaggs**.

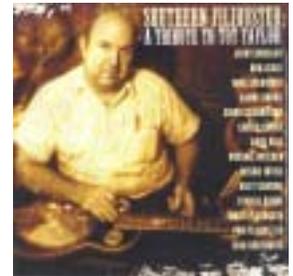


**SMM-2005 LAURIE LEWIS “Blossoms”** It has been a while since we have seen a new album by *Laurie Lewis*, but this one is certainly a fine addition to her previous work. The recording hits full force right from track 1 with a lovely unaccompanied rendition of HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING. Other really notable cuts include the traditional BEAVER CREEK with Laurie’s fiddling backed by *Craig Smith* on banjo and *Tom Rozum* on mandolin, plus a superb BURLEY COULTER’S SONG FOR KATE BRANCH, with Laurie’s fiddling here backed by *Brittany Haas*’ second fiddle and the cello playing of *Tristan Claridge* (he of Crooked Still fame). No producer credits are listed (we assume it is Ms. Lewis), but the arrangements are excellent and Laurie has wisely called on some superior musicians for backing., including David Grier (guitar), Todd Phillips (bass), Tim O’Brien and Darol Anger. A very nice record here that showcases Laurie’s fine, soulful singing. 14 Songs. **\$ 13.50**



**RHY-107 VARIOUS ARTISTS “The Golden Age of Bluegrass”** On the positive side of this 2-CD anthology is the fact that the buyer will get a lot of music, with 40 songs and tunes drawn from Rural Rhythm’s extensive back catalog of material recorded in the 1960s—the price is certainly a bargain. On the negative side of things, there’s no real theme here, and the collection is sort of a hodge-podge mixture of odds and ends rather than any real reflection of the “Golden Age of Bluegrass” that the title implies. There are 8 cuts by *Hylo Brown* (not all his strongest efforts), 3 strong cuts by *Red Smiley*, and four pieces by *J.E. Mainer* which would fit better in an old-time collection. The remaining space on the two CDs features mostly average material by groups like *Ernie & Mack*, *James Wall*, *Roy Ross*, *The Log Cabin Boys and Red White*, though there are also a couple of tracks by *Earl Taylor* and one by *Mac Martin*. Some items of interest here, but not an essential record, even at the budget price. **\$ 9.00**

**EIE-2082 SOUTHERN FILIBUSTER “A Tribute to Tut Taylor”** As longtime fans of Bluegrass will remember, in the pre-Jerry Douglas days there were probably less than 10 dobro players on the scene (led by *Buck Graves*, *Mike Auldridge* and *Brother Oswald*). Tut Taylor was one of these early players, and the only one to use a flat pick. It was certainly a neat idea to record this tribute to Taylor, who is now in his 80s. 14 different musicians each pick one of Tut’s tunes, with the whole project produced and overseen by the master of the instrument, *Jerry Douglas*. A few of those featured here are *Auldridge*, *Randy Kohrs*, *Phil Leadbetter*, *Rob Ickes*, *Cindy Cashdollar*, *Andy Hall*, *Ferrell Stowe* and *Ivan Rosenberg*. Backing artists include *Stuart Duncan* and *Jason Carter* (fiddle), *Ronnie McCoury* and *Mike Compton* (mandolin), *David Grier* (guitar) and *Mike Bub*, *Barry Bales* and *Dennis Crouch* (Bass). If there is a minor complaint it is that the tunes start to sound similar (which is understandable in that they were all written by Taylor). All in all a nice, impressive disc. **\$ 13.50**



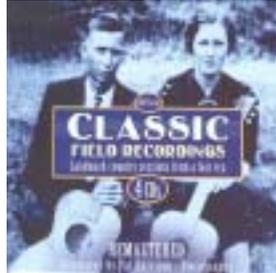
**COMPASS-4541 SPECIAL CONSENSUS “35”** Celebrating 35 years on the Bluegrass scene, this 4-member band led by banjo picker *Greg Cahill* continues to issue first rate albums. In this case, the format is somewhat different: to mark the group’s anniversary they have recorded 6 new songs and then added in another half dozen numbers from previous recordings (the band has made 14 albums between 1979 and the present). The new recordings are solid contemporary fare (though a song like DUSK TIL DAWN has more of a surging traditional sound somewhat akin to a *Lonesome River Band* style). Best of the new recordings may be the fine a cappella LAND UP IN THE AIR. A neat feature of the booklet that comes with this disc is a listing of every musician who played in the band over the years (some 15 guitarists and 15 mandolin pickers, for example!). Also included is the list of every record made (LPs and CDs) for such labels as Turquoise, Tin Ear, and Pinecastle. A solid and enjoyable album. HAVE I LOVED YOU TOO LATE, DANNY’S DANCE, FOURTEEN CARAT MIND, COUNTRY BOY, THAT’S TENNESSEE, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**LO-540 KATHY KALLICK BAND “Between The Hollow and the High Rise”** Well played straight Bluegrass on 14 songs and tunes by this California band that includes Tom Bekeny on mandolin. Greg Booth adds some good picking on both banjo and dobro. Nice renditions of COME WALK WITH ME, PANHANDLE RAG, LONESOME NIGHT, THERE’S A HIGHER POWER and WILDFLOWERS. **\$ 13.50**

**PATUX-208 TIM MARTIN “Bluegrass Fiddle”** Nice job on 16 all original fiddle tunes by Martin, who is backed nicely by a solid group consisting of *David McLaughlin* (mand.), *Jeremy Stephens* (guitar), *Marshall Wilbourn* (bass), and *Jessie Baker* (banjo). Solid Bluegrass fiddling—Martin’s tunes sound like they could just as well be “old timers”. TACKETT BRANCH, GREEN’S CREEK, TIGHT SQUEEZE, R.P.’s RUN, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**JSP-77131 VARIOUS ARTISTS “Classic Field Recordings 1933-1940”** Here is a very interesting and welcome re-issue package from the British JSP company that has brought us some fine old-time collections in the past few years. This 4-CD set contains 100 recordings—all taken from the Bluebird label, and documenting some groups that have been poorly represented on CD in the past.

It is not all great music, but there are some very good cuts here. Among them are songs & tunes by 25 different bands or solo artists including *J.H. Howell*, *Lester ‘Pete’ Bivins*, *Walter Couch & His Wilks Ramblers*, *Southern Melody Boys*, *Gwen*



*Foster*, *Louisiana Lou* and *the Rouse Brothers*. Some of the most interesting tracks are 6 by the *Southern Melody Boys* (Odus & Woodrow), eight by *J.H. Howell’s Carolina Hillbillies* including a couple of nice harmonica pieces. Also a couple of neat blues by *Jack Pierce* (SOAP BOX BLUES and RABBIT BLUES), 3 lovely songs by the *Hill Brothers & Willie Simmons* with autoharp & guitar, and ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL by its writer, the *Rouse Brothers*. Others represented are Grady & Hazel Cole, Roy Shaffer, the Blind Fiddler, Pete Pyle and Dewey & Gassie Bassett. **\$27.50**

**BACM-308 THE EDISON LABEL** With this issue the British Archive label continues to document many of the labels and groups that have not been particularly well covered to date. The Edison label tried its hand at rural music in the 1920s, but was not very successful with it, and it was pretty well known that Thomas Edison (who picked most of the talent himself) was not a big fan of “hillbilly” music. This 20 track compilation can be judged two ways: it is a good sampling of what the Edison label put out in this category, but it is not as strong musically as it could be. I think most old time music fans would have preferred to see this collection strictly devoted to the rural groups, leaving out the “ersatz” hillbilly music of Vernon Dalhart, Frankie Marvin, Carson Robison and Frank Luther—they account for 8 of the 20 tracks here. Edison had several good rural string bands: *Posey Rorer*, *Fiddlin’ Powers Family* and *Ernest Stoneman*; just two Powers cuts and one Stoneman track are presented here, which is frustrating because here was the perfect chance to bring out more rare tunes by these important artists (Stoneman for one, recorded a lot for Edison). Edison also signed up some older fiddlers during the height of the Henry Ford sponsored old-time fiddlers’ contests—the three are represented here (*Jasper Bisbee*, *John Baltzell* and *Allen Sisson*). There’s only one cut each by Baltzell and Bisbee, and just two by Sisson, a legendary fiddler from Ducktown, Tenn., who made at least 8 recordings including his versions of CUMBERLAND GAP and ROCKY ROAD TO DUBLIN. With brief but good notes by Tony Russell. **\$ 15.00**

**TINMAN-2010 LARRY GILLIS “Swampgrass”** Previously joined by his brothers on several records as the *Gillis Brothers*, banjo picker *Larry Gillis* has a different group of musicians on this new 14-track release, but retains the same hard-driving “Stanley” sound that he and his brothers were known for. Larry’s banjo sounds more like *Ralph Stanley* than anyone we’ve heard except for Ralph’s sideman *Steve Sparkman*, and the overall sound is closer to Stanley’s than any band we can think of apart from maybe the old *Wilson Brothers* group (but The Wilsons were from Stanley’s neck of the woods while Gillis is from Georgia). About 8 of the songs are Larry’s—lyrically they are not too strong, but they come off pretty well thanks to the group’s solid, traditional picking style. Larry employs some good clawhammer banjo on the instrumental TROUBLE IN THE SWAMP and on two other pieces that are as much instrumentals as they are songs: KRISTI LYNN and THE BOTTLE. It is too bad that there are essentially no notes here to tell us who is doing what, but this family has a following and its fans will enjoy this dynamic, hard edged record. DARK HOLLOW, PRETTY WOMAN, NOBODY ANSWERED ME, DOWN BY THE RIVER, TODAY MARKS THE DAY, LOOK OVER ME LORD, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**SFW-40202 OLA BELLE REED “Rising Sun Melodies”** Loved and admired by all who knew her, Ola Belle Reed was among many southern mountain folk who moved from their native North Carolina to the Maryland/Delaware/Pennsylvania area to find work. She helped to establish the legendary New River Ranch in Rising Sun, Maryland, and later was a fixture at Sunset Park (in Pennsylvania, but just a few miles from New River Ranch). In earlier days she was a member of the *North Carolina Ridge Runners*, later teamed with her brother *Alex Campbell* to record two good albums for Starday. She also was recorded by Rounder Records and Folkways in the 1970s, and it is from the latter recordings that this 19-track compilation was drawn. It is a fine collection that includes impressive versions of her best known songs, HIGH ON A MOUNTAIN, MY EPI-TAPH, I’VE ENDURED and the powerful SPRING-TIME OF LIFE, mixed in with some typical old time songs that she would perform at the country music parks and on the radio—



NINE POUND HAMMER, SWEET EVALINA, BONAPARTE’S RETREAT, etc. The disc includes a wonderful 38 page booklet about her life and musical career (sadly, in the last 15 years of her life she was incapacitated by a severe stroke). This is a wonderful tribute to a great lady who shared wisdom as well as her music with many. **\$ 15.00**

**PEARLY-2010 THE PEARLY SNAPS** Enjoyable old-time music by a young 4-member band that features the vocals of *Rosie Newton* and *Stephanie Jenkins* (Ms. Newton also plays fiddle on several cuts, while 5 excellent tunes feature the fiddling of *Steve Selin*—FIVE MILES TO TOWN, INDIAN ATE A WOODCHUCK, LEATHER BREECHES, etc). The group is apparently from the Ithaca, N. Y. area—one of the hotbeds of the old time music revival in the 1970s. SUGAR BABE, THE BLACKEST CROW, SILVER DAGGER, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**HS-1005 TIM O'BRIEN "Chicken & Egg"** O'Brien has the backing of some excellent musicians here—namely *Stuart Duncan, Mike Bub, Bryan Sutton, and Dennis Crouch* on this 14-track workout. Ten of the 14 songs are O'Brien originals and for the most part they seem more like leftovers than the type of high quality writing that O'Brien is known for. Tim switches instruments easily from guitar to Bouzouki, mandolin and banjo. WORKIN', MOTHER MARY, SINNER, YOU ATE THE APPLE, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**BOOK: GIBSON MASTERTONE** by Jim Mills, (Centerstream Pub., 2009). 168 pp. softbound. Gibson Banjo fans, fanatics and aficionados will probably already have this stunning book that pictures and describes some of the most desirable 5-string banjos ever made. But those who haven't seen it are in for a real treat as it is a gem of a book. Author *Jim Mills* is one of the best pickers in the business (he has won IBMA's Banjo player of the year multiple times, and other awards while playing with *Ricky Skaggs* amazing Kentucky Thunder band). But Mills is not just a great picker—he is one of the very top collectors and historians when it comes to "the five". This book—truly a labor of love—is not just a jumble of technical details and oddities—in its pages it relates the history of each instrument, many of which are now in Mills' amazing collection. Others were once playing instruments for such artists as *Earl Scruggs, Don Reno, Snuffy Jenkins, Sonny Osborne, Fisher Hendley, Scott Wiseman, J.D. Crowe* and others. **\$30.00**

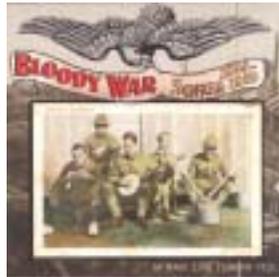


**BACM-298 BENNY MARTIN "Just Me & My Fiddle"** It is generally agreed that Benny Martin was one of the finest fiddlers ever in country and Bluegrass music, and some would argue that he was *THE* best when it came to backing up a singer. Over the years Martin played with *Roy Acuff, Kitty Wells, Johnnie & Jack and Flatt & Scruggs*, as well as doing session work for other acts like *Wilma Lee & Stoney, Reno & Smiley, and the McCormick Brothers*—fortunately there are many good examples of his fiddling on record. Martin also was a good singer with a distinctive style, but he was not served well on wax in this capacity, and the culprit was simply an endless stream of mediocre material. His great talent was recognized in the country music industry, where he was given recording contracts by RCA Victor, Mercury, Decca, MGM and other labels, but as was the trend at the time, the good songs were saved for the most popular artists of the day like Eddy Arnold and Hank Snow, while Benny and other very talented singers were given silly novelties and junky songs that had no chance to go anywhere regardless of who sang them. This album has 25 songs—mostly from the Mercury label—none of them of real interest except for Benny's early Pioneer label recording of his signature song, JUST ME AND MY FIDDLE (and this was done better on a later recording). Martin deserved much better than this. TAKE MY WORD, GIRLS GIRLS, TOP GUN, UNTRUE YOU, BORDER BABY, DO ME A FAVOR, HOEBE SNOW, etc. **\$ 15.00**

**MSM-001 JEREMY STEPHENS & ROBERT MONTGOMERY "Sing The Old Songs"** Stephens and Montgomery are talented young musicians who are equally at home with Bluegrass and Old-Time music. Here in 15 cuts they present a nice assortment of songs from such different sources as *Charlie Poole, Uncle Dave Macon, The Lewis Family, Rebe & Rabe, Blind Alfred Reed, the Blue Sky Boys and Mac O'Dell*. Stephens—who had a previous album of his own on Rebel—is a fine Scruggs style banjo picker, and Montgomery plays some clawhammer banjo as well as sharing guitar duties. Performing in a "brother duet" style they present nice versions of songs like CAN YOU FORGIVE, LET'S PRAY, IT'S A GRAND & GLORIOUS FEELING, WHY NOT CONFESS, MATTHEW 24, OVER THE MOUNTAIN, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**JETT-1403 JETT'S CREEK "Guilty"** This Ohio-based group has another nice, solid album of contemporary Bluegrass, featuring good vocals by Angie Young as well as Jon McIntosh and Adam McIntosh. The group includes two members who are now part of Joe Mullins' Radio Ramblers: Evan McGregor on fiddle and Adam McIntosh on lead guitar. Angie Young's two original songs are part of a nice assortment of material that includes pieces by Harley Allen, Mark Brinkman, Pete Goble and Jerry Salley. GEORGIA GIRL, SUZANNE, THIS OLD HAMMER, HE LOVES ME, DENVER, etc. **\$ 13.50**

**TSQ-2459 VARIOUS ARTISTS “BLOODY WAR”** 1924-1939 songs. We are always glad to see another re-issue of 78rpm discs from the “Golden Age” of country music, and though this one leaves a bit to be desired it does revive some excellent old recordings and serves as a good topic for a compilation (which is quite nicely presented with a 16 page booklet and good discographical data). The CD ranges from the comical (*The Piedmont Log Rollers’* BATTLESHIP OF MAINE and *Darby & Tarlton’s* CAPTAIN WON’T YOU LET ME GO HOME) to the tragic classics FADED COAT OF BLUE by *Buell Kazee* and *Grayson & Whitter’s* masterful HE IS COMING TO US DEAD. A few of the cuts are musically pretty weak and there are enough war songs around that a few of the cuts used could have been replaced with stronger songs. For example

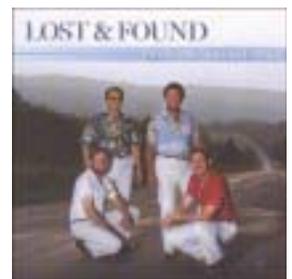


*Wade Mainer’s* NOT A WORD OF THAT BE SAID is pleasant enough, but the *Charlie Poole* version of the same civil war song (WRITE A LETTER TO MY MOTHER) is more poignant, and Mainer could have been represented well by his classic WE WILL MISS HIM. The CD’s initial track (JUST AS THE SUN WENT DOWN) is not one of *Zeke Morris’* better songs, and makes a kind of poor choice for the first cut on the record. We find DIXIE DIVISION one of *Fiddlin’ John Carson’s* weaker recordings, even though the notes term it “a masterpiece”. On the more positive side there are interesting cuts by Ernest Stoneman, Earl Johnson, Frank Hutcison and the Dixon Brothers. Though not as strong as many other topical releases, we’d still recommend this to lovers of old 78s. **\$ 15.00**

**MH-1309 THE BOXCARS** Here is a new Bluegrass band that we hope will be around for a while. It’s filled with extra-talented pickers, led by mandolin ace *Adam Steffey*. Other band members include banjo & fiddle superstar *Ronnie Stewart*, *Keith Garrett* (guitar), *Harold Nixon* (acoustic bass) and *John Bowman*—who can pick a solid banjo and play fiddle as well as guitar. Steffey is coming off a very recent, strong album for the Sugar Hill label. This one features a decent group of songs, about half of them band originals. We still like the old favorites best, I COULD CHANGE MY MIND and LITTLE OLD LOG CABIN IN THE LANE. A good first effort, well played & sung. **\$ 13.50**

**GA-214 VARIOUS ARTISTS “THE BEST OF TRADITIONAL AMERICAN BLUEGRASS”** Following up a strange compilation on the same label that we reviewed earlier (see GA-062, “THE APPALACHIAN TRADITION”), the New York-based *Great American* label has issued another similar anthology that presents more of the same strengths and weaknesses. To cover the positive first, there are 20 tracks, most well re-mastered, and it’s mostly excellent music and a bargain. On the minus side, there’s very little Bluegrass, despite the CD’s title, and to call it a “Bluegrass” album is a blatant inaccuracy. (At the end of his notes Bill Dahl states “These 20 classic performances represent the *roots* of Bluegrass”, which is a much more honest description). Dahl’s notes proceed along OK for about two thirds of the way, then unfortunately are marred by some errors that could have been avoided with a proof reading by any knowledgeable old-time music fan: *The Kentucky Ramblers*—represented by a nice cut of PRETTY WHITE ROSE—had nothing to do with the *Prairie Ramblers* who appeared on Chicago radio and backed Patsy Montana on recordings, except that both groups were from Kentucky. Then Dahl seems determined to perpetuate the misconception that *Wade Mainer’s* RAMSHACKLE SHACK was later revived by *George Jones* and *The Tams* (a beach music group)—he is confusing this with another song! The only other complaint we have is the inclusion of tracks by Erik Darling, Dick Weissman and the Kossoy Sisters—urban folk artists whose music seems seriously out of place among cuts by *Frank Jenkins*, *Grayson & Whitter*, *Dock Walsh*, *Jimmie Tarlton*, *Uncle Dave Macon*, and the *Monroe Brothers* among others. Though many old time fans may already have most of the pieces here, there are some great performances like *Marion Underwood’s* COAL CREEK MARCH, *Frank Jenkins’* BAPTIST SHOUT, Macon’s SUSIE LEE, and *Earl Johnson’s* AIN’T NOBODY’S BUSINESS. **\$ 10.00**

**REB-7524 THE LOST & FOUND “Down On Sawmill Road”** A great 14-song compilation of this band’s best work for the Rebel label over a 30+ year period. From the days with *Gene Parker*, *Roger Handy* and *Bubba Chandler* to the present,



there are superior cuts of this well traveled band that was anchored by *Allen Mills* and the late *Dempsey Young*. Some of the notable songs are IF TODAY WAS THE LAST DAY, A DAISY A DAY, LEAVING YOU & MOBILE TOO, THE RABBIT SONG, LOG CABIN IN THE LANE, PEACE IN THE VALLEY, and THAT’S WHAT COUNTRY FOLKS DO. A superb representation of this great Bluegrass band. **On SALE this month for just \$ 7.00**

**CAP-85410 DIERKS BENTLEY “Up On The Ridge”**

We had the occasion of seeing Bentley perform at Merlefest in a Bluegrass setting (with Del McCoury’s band) and came away with the impression that he loved and respected Bluegrass music and acquitted himself very well. We thought his new album would reflect that, but really there’s not very much of a Bluegrass nature here. *Del McCoury* and *Chris Thile* appear on a few tracks, but basically the music is pretty much what you’d expect of a country artist with typical Nashville trappings Bentley is a good singer and is one of the more respected of today’s country artists, and we’d love to hear him with some different songs and a true Bluegrass backing. FALLIN’ FOR YOU, BAD ANGEL, DOWN IN THE MINE, SENOR, ROVIN’ GAMBLER, FIDDLIN’ AROUND, etc. (12 cuts) **\$15.00**

**RCH-2006 LOU REID AND CAROLINA “Sounds Like Heaven To Me”**

An excellent all Bluegrass gospel album by Reid and his current band which includes his wife *Christy* (bass and vocals), *Trevor Watson* (banjo) and *Shannon Slaughter* (guitar). Reid offers his mandolin work as well as providing most of the vocal leads. *Ron Stewart* adds some fine fiddle touches on a few cuts. The material—mostly new to the Bluegrass field—is fresh and there is a nice balance of slow and up-tempo arrangements. The CD includes two nicely done a cappella songs: LORD HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL, and IT’S HARD TO STUMBLE. SWEET BYE & BYE, JOHN IN THE JORDAN, MAMA, etc., **\$13.50**

**FIDDLER-2010 FIDDLER NELSON “We Didn’t Make This Up”**

This is a group of Missouri musicians who formed an old-time string band back in 2003 mostly to honor and play the tunes of some legendary fiddlers of the region (including Cyril Stinnett, Bob Walters, Casey Jones and Dwight Lamb). They do a nice job in presenting a wide variety of material that includes jigs, reels, waltzes, quadrilles and polkas, and there are a generous 22 tunes here in this nicely produced album. There’s a good mixture of obscure tunes and better known pieces like DUSTY MILLER, RAISE A RUCKUS, COMING DOWN FROM DENVER, DURANG’S HORNPIPE, NATCHEZ UNDER THE HILL, and JOHNNY BRING THE JUG AROUND THE HILL, etc. **\$13.50**

**BHSB-2010 BOOGER HOLLER STRING BAND “Where The Pavement Ends”**

While this band does not have the instrumental proficiency of many of today’s old-time groups from the Pacific Northwest or the Virginia/North Carolina region, they do have spirit and obviously enjoy what they are doing. The 6-member band has picked out a good program of 15 tunes and they settle into a nice dance tempo. A few tracks feature vocals by Kay Van Treese, who also plays mandolin, and the fiddling is shared by Clare Davis and Tom Van Treese. DUCK RIVER, RABBIT IN THE PEA PATCH, SILVER LAKE, TEXAS GALS, CINDY, ALTAMONT, JOHN BROWN’S DREAM, etc **\$13.50**

**TSQ-2400 ROLAND WHITE “I Wasn’t Born To Rock ‘N Roll”** Here’s a re-issue of a record that originally came out on LP in 1976 on the Texas-based Ridge Runner label. It features 13 well played tracks, one of which is a 6 song “marathon” like you are likely to hear from parking lot pickers at a festival (LOVE PLEASE COME HOME, NINE POUND HAMMER, DOIN’ MY TIME, etc). White played guitar for *Bill Monroe* and mandolin with *Lester Flatt*’s band as well as being a long time member of the *Nashville Bluegrass Band*.. Here he is backed by *Kenny Wertz* on guitar and the outstanding banjo playing of *Alan Munde*. Nice to see this available again after some 34 years! **\$15.00**

**DGR-001 JUSTIN MOSES “Dusty Roads”** Moses is another of a growing number of talented young musicians who play all of the Bluegrass instruments well. Moses plays them all here (including dobro), but he features the mandolin most, and here gets some good help from a few other artists, among them *Byron House* (Bass) and *Andy Leftwich* (fiddle on 3 tracks). There are a few vocals, best of which are two by *Keith Garrett* (a nice HEART OF ALABAMA and DIG A HOLE). Seven of the 12 pieces are Moses’ originals. IMPACT, ONE MORE HILL, OLD FEDERAL, etc. **\$13.50**

**GPI-6028 THE DIXIE BLUEGRASS BOYS “Serving The South”** Solid, straightforward traditional Bluegrass by this 5-piece band from the states of Virginia and North Carolina. Some familiar names from the past here, among them *Larry Hall* (he played banjo for the late *Clinton King*) and *Dewey Farmer* (he played mandolin for *A.L. Woods’ Smokey Ridge Boys*. 11 well chosen songs & tunes include POOR ELLEN SMITH, TRAIL OF SORROW, DARK AS THE NIGHT, PANHANDLE COUNTRY, LOVE CALL WALTZ, etc. **\$10.00**

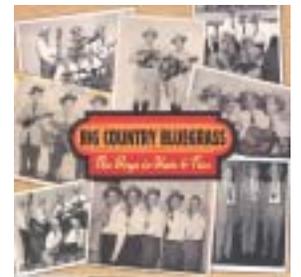
**REB-1838 BIG COUNTRY BLUEGRASS**

**“The Boys In Hats & Ties”** If you like your Bluegrass straight and solid “mountain style”, you’re most likely going to enjoy this fine 15-track recording by this popular band from southwestern Virginia.

They’ve been at it for a long time and it shows in their singing and playing, led by top flight fiddling and singing from *Jeff Michael*.

Other members of the group include *Johnny Williams* (guitar), *Lynwood Lunsford* (banjo), *Tommy Sells* (mandolin) and *Teresa Sells*, who plays guitar and joins in with some lovely high harmony vocals. The late bass player

*Alan Mastin* was present on all the tracks of this disc. The title cut is a really neat song that most older fans and musicians will relate to: it’s a Dixie & Tom T. Hall song, one in a continuing line of excellent songs that they have given to various Bluegrass artists over the past few years. Anyone who grew up with Martha White and Flatt & Scruggs will get a kick out of this one. **\$13.50**



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