



NEWSLETTER #323

March - April 2013

www.countysales.com

COUNTY SALES
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We are sorry to report the deaths of three musicians who were affiliated with Bluegrass music. **HOMER FORBES**, of the Forbes Family, died of cancer on January 16, at the age of 51. Homer was the leader of the southeastern Pennsylvania family band who made several fine records for REBEL in the 1980s. (Some of their best material is due to be released on two compact discs later this year).

Bluegrass fiddler and singer **BILLY JOE FOSTER** passed away on January 23. And **ALVIN BREEDEN** died on February 26. Breedon was a fine Reno-style banjo picker and band leader who was very popular in central Virginia for many years with his group the VIRGINIA CUTUPS.

A very popular item recently at COUNTY SALES is the new book on the STANLEY BROTHERS by David Johnson: (“**LONESOME MELODIES**” “**The Lives and Music of the Stanley Brothers**”) published by the University Press of Mississippi, 300 pages hardbound. Although the book repeats a lot of the material already covered in the Ralph Stanley biography edited by Eddie Dean (“**MAN OF CONSTANT SORROW**”), there’s plenty of interest here for any fan of the Stanley Brothers. Making use of interviews from many musicians, friends and family members, Johnson covers the brothers’ lives from their childhood in the Clinch Mountains to Carter’s sad death in 1966. We have just read a few chapters, but it’s a fascinating book and hard to put down. **\$ 39.00**

AUCTION & SET SALE LISTS For those interested in collectors’ items, we will soon be sending out the following lists—(available on request—indicate which you’d like):

LIST # 108 This is our auction of Bluegrass, Old Time and Country LPs—in top shape

LIST # 148 An auction of Old-Time & Bluegrass 78rpm records

LIST P This will be a set sale of country 78s sold in lots of around 9 or 10 of most of the popular artists of the 40s and 50s (Roy Acuff, Eddy Arnold, Cowboy Copas, etc).

These will be bargain priced at around \$ 2.00 per disc—lots of good music here.

SPECIAL REBEL SALE

Check out the sale we are running this month on many of the top records on the **REBEL** label. For a limited time only, these CDs are priced at just **\$ 7.00 each** (regular price is \$ 13.50). A great opportunity to add some great CDs!

Purchase Amount	\$4.00-29.99	\$30.00-59.99	\$60.00-139.99	\$140.00-199.99	Over \$200.00
U. S. Media Mail	3.50	5.00	7.00	8.00	9.50
U. S. Priority Mail	5.50	8.00	10.00	13.00	15.00
International/Canadian orders will be charged exact shipping costs based on weight of the order					
ALL CUSTOMERS ARE CHARGED A \$1.50 HANDLING FEE * ALL VIRGINIA CUSTOMERS MUST ADD 5% SALES TAX.					
For UPS/COD shipments, please add \$11.00 in addition to regular shipping charges.					
For US Mail/COD shipments, please add \$7.30 in addition to regular shipping charges.					
For special expedited rates (FED EX, UPS, NEXT DAY, etc) please call or fax us for cost & authorization.					



SEND ALL ORDERS TO:
COUNTY SALES
P.O. BOX 191
FLOYD, VA 24091



540-745-2001 * Minimum credit card order is \$25.00 * (Fax) 540-745-2008

SPECIAL SALE OF REBEL RECORDS

For a very limited time we are offering all of the following CDs at a special price of just **\$ 7.00 per CD**. There is no limit to how many you can purchase, and these can be used toward your SPECIAL OFFER (Buy 6 and get the seventh CD free—but your free CD must be *any Rebel or County CD*, not limited to this list!). This list includes many of Rebel's best-selling records, most of them never offered before at this special sale price! Also note the special pricing on all three **REBEL box sets!** **OFFER ENDS MAY 7, 2013**

REB-1101	SELDOM SCENE "Best Of The Seldom Scene"
REB-1102	COUNTRY GENTLEMEN "25 Years"
REB-1109	RALPH STANLEY "Classic Bluegrass"
REB-1110	STANLEY BROTHERS "Long Journey Home"
REB-1112	LOST & FOUND "Classic Bluegrass"
REB-1115	STANLEY BROTHERS "On Radio" (classic Jim Walter Homes shows)
REB-1118	RALPH STANLEY "Live At McClure"
REB-1126	RALPH STANLEY "Man Of Constant Sorrow"
REB-1127	RED ALLEN "Keep On Going"
REB-1128	RED ALLEN "Lonesome And Blue"
REB-1506	COUNTRY GENTLEMEN "Award Winning"
REB-1549	TONY RICE "California Autumn" great guitar!
REB-1574	COUNTRY GENTLEMEN "Calling My Children Home"
REB-1588	LARRY SPARKS "John Deere Tractor" a classic Bluegrass album
REB-1688	LILLY BROTHERS & DON STOVER "Early Recordings"
REB-1690	LONESOME RIVER BAND "Carrying the Tradition"
REB-1691	IIIRD TYME OUT
REB-1692	RHONDA VINCENT "Bound For Gloryland"
REB-1709	DEL McCOURY "Livin' On The Mountain"
REB-1714	RICHARD GREENE "The Grass Is Greener" Great fiddle disc
REB-1715	COUNTRY GENTLEMEN "Souvenirs"
REB-1717	FORBES FAMILY "I'll Look To Him"
REB-1723	LOST & FOUND "A Ride Through The Country"
REB-1739	CHRIS JONES "No One But You"
REB-1741	CLIFF WALDRON "Old Friends & Memories"
REB-1746	BLUE HIGHWAY "Midnight Storm" a classic CD
REB-1757	DAVE EVANS "Bad Moon Shining"
REB-1764	MARK NEWTON "Follow Me Back To The Fold"
REB-1774	PAUL WILLIAMS "Hard Working Pilgrim"
REB-1785	JAMES ALAN SHELTON "Song For Greta"
REB-1788	LILLY BROTHERS "What Will I Leave Behind"
REB-1789	DON RENO & RED SMILEY "Together Again"
REB-1792	KARL SHIFLETT & BIG COUNTRY SHOW "Worries On My Mind"
REB-1796	ROCK COUNTY "Rock Solid"
REB-1799	WILDWOOD VALLEY BOYS "Songs From Wildwood Valley"
REB-1801	LARRY RICE "Clouds Over Carolina"
REB-1805	RALPH STANLEY II "Carrying On"
REB-1811	KENNY & AMANDA SMITH "Always Never Enough"
REB-1817	DAVID DAVIS & WARRIOR RIVER BOYS "Troubled Times"
REB-1818	DON RIGSBY "Hillbilly Heartache"
REB-1820	JOHN STARLING "Slidin' Home"
REB-1823	JIMMY GAUDREAU & MOONDI KLEIN "Home From The Mills"
REB-1826	BARRY SCOTT & SECOND WIND "In God's Time"
REB-1836	JOHN DUFFEY "The Rebel Years, 1962-1977"

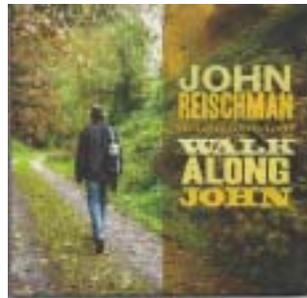
The following **REBEL** boxed sets are offered at a special sale price of just **\$ 30.00 Each** (regular price is \$ 45.00). These are all 4-CD sets with great booklets. Each set contains around 100 songs and tunes. Great collections!

REB-4000	REBEL RECORDS 35th ANNIVERSARY BOX (Wonderful survey of the label)
REB-4001	RALPH STANLEY Complete 1971-1973 Recordings with Whitley, Centers, etc.
REB-4002	COUNTRY GENTLEMEN "1962-1971" 110 songs & tunes!

DSM-2011 BYRON BERLINE “Thanks Bill Monroe” Oklahoma fiddler Berline was a member of Bill Monroe’s Blue Grass Boys at one time, and recorded with Monroe on SALLY GOODIN as well as VIRGINIA DARLIN and the classic GOLD RUSH. Here he plays superb cuts of some of Monroe’s great tunes (14 of them) including OLD DANGERFIELD, UNCLE PEN, RAWHIDE, BLUEGRASS BREAKDOWN, and the haunting LONESOME MOONLIGHT WALTZ. Some of the tracks come from old *L.A. Fiddle Band* recordings, while others seem more recent. There’s also a good amount of excellent twin fiddle work here. Byron sings on a few songs and there are a few other average vocals by Jim Fish and Roger Reed. **\$ 13.50**

CORVUS-020 JOHN REISCHMAN “Walk Along John”

A good west coast Bluegrass musician who has produced a number of good records in his career, Reischman has here a full instrumental album of his mandolin playing, where all but two of the tunes are his own compositions. He has some excellent musicians accompanying him on the 14 track CD, including Kenny Smith and Jim Nunally on lead guitars, Tony Trischka on banjo, Chris Thile on 2nd mandolin and several others. Standout cuts include 3 duets with fiddler Bruce Molsky (SIDE BY SIDE, ICE ON THE DOGWATER and the title tune). The traditional SALT RIVER—a simple duet with Chris Coole on banjo—is another very effective number. A well produced and enjoyable recording. **\$ 13.50**



RUR-1103 LONESOME RIVER BAND “Chronology—Vol. 3” This is the third CD in this series, which is like a retrospective of this group’s past work. The problem with this idea is that long time fans of this fine group will already most likely have more than half the songs on this disc (and there are only 10 songs). It’s good, strong Bluegrass but the new versions of the numbers here are not very different than the excellent original versions—all of which are still available on various Rebel and Sugar Hill albums. The main difference is that the lead singing is mostly done here by Brandon Rickman. If you’re a new convert to Lonesome River Band this is a good way to hear some of their work at a bargain price. But for long time fans it would be advisable to note that the following 6 songs are available elsewhere: SITTIN ON TOP OF THE WORLD, HARVEST TIME, MONEY IN THE BANK, CAROLYN THE TEENAGE QUEEN, AM I A FOOL and WHO NEEDS YOU. **\$ 8.00**

MECC-2011 HOME CRAFT DAYS : Legend & Legacy: Various artists “40th Anniversary”. A nicely produced and very worthwhile 2-CD set put out by the Mountain Empire Community College in southwestern Virginia (this has probably been available locally for a year or two). It’s a celebration of “Mountain Music” containing 47 tracks of both Old-time and Bluegrass music. There are a few familiar names here, (Big Medicine, Whitetop Mountain Band, The Wolfe Brothers, Robin & Linda Williams, Glen Roberts & Al Elliot and the Reed Island Ramblers, etc) though we didn’t recognize the bulk of the bands and individual artists. But for the most part, the music is quite nice, with just a few clunkers here and there. There are more than a few pieces that are outstanding, such as a neat WHISKEY BEFORE BREAKFAST (played by Jeff Little on piano with guitar accompaniment by Wayne Henderson) and OLD TENNESSEE by Martin Fox and Jeff Winegar. There’s a nice 12-page booklet that describes the tunes and the musicians. An interesting and nice project. **2-CD set: \$ 15.00**

PRC-1183 ALAN BIBEY & WAYNE BENSON “The Mandolin Chronicles”

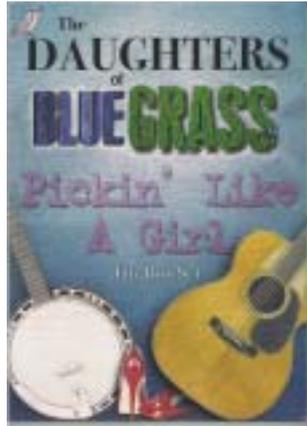
Two of today’s best Bluegrass mandolin pickers share the billing on this nicely done album that features quite a bit of variety considering that two mandolins are out front on the entire record. The most distinctive and unusual sounds come on 4 pieces that feature just Bibey & Benson doing mandolin duets (OWENSBORO TRAIN, SURFSIDE, WINTERGRASS and Tommy Jackson’s great tune CRAZY CREEK). There are two jazzy excursions, BLACK FRIDAY and Charlie Parker’s NOW’S THE TIME. But probably the strongest tracks on the album are the 3 full band, beautifully played numbers: SWEET DIXIE, WILKES COUNTY BREAKDOWN and PILGRIM’S KNOB (A Bill Monroe tune that he never recorded commercially). What helps make these tracks special is the fiddle and banjo work of Ron Stewart and the guitar playing of Wyatt Rice An excellent all instrumental record. **\$ 13.50**



RUR-1092 CARRIE HASSLER “The Distance” An 8-song mini-CD of pleasant, contemporary Bluegrass by Ms. Hassler, with instrumental backing from a group that includes Ron Stewart, Tim Stafford, Alan Bibey (mandolin), Mark Fain (bass), and Justin Moses (fiddle & dobro). Steve Gulley is the producer here. LUXURY LINER, GIVE MY LOVE, etc. **\$ 10.00**

BCR-036 THE DAUGHTERS OF BLUEGRASS

“Pickin’ Like a Girl” It’s long since the time when women were a rarity in Bluegrass music, especially women who could pick as well as sing. If that wasn’t already clear, this monster of a 4-CD Box set will cast all doubts aside. There are well over 100 ladies who appear on this imposing set which features 52 songs. Just about every gal you can think of is here singing and/or playing—just a few of the names include Jeanette Williams, Sonya Isaacs, Laurie Lewis, Alecia Nugent, Donna Ulisse, Pam Gadd, Kristen Scott Benson, Valerie Smith, Lorraine Jordan, Missy Raines and the list goes on! The cast of characters is 100% female, and we have not heard anything less than excellent, thoroughly competent picking and singing here. The main forces behind this blockbuster set are



Tom T. and Dixie Hall, who have done an amazing job in promoting Bluegrass music over the years. It didn’t strike me until after I had heard the first 5 or 6 tracks on Disc 1 that every single song here was written by Tom T. and/or Dixie Hall! And like everything connected with the Halls, this is high quality material. Most Bluegrass fans will recognize many of the songs, like LOCAL FLOWERS, FOLLOW ME BACK TO THE FOLD, THERE’S ALWAYS A LIGHT IN THE CHURCH, LET ME FLY LOW and EMPTY OLD MAILBOX—but most of the pieces will probably be new to most listeners. Just a note to explain the packaging: the 52 songs fit onto 3 discs—there is a “bonus” 4th disc that is actually a CD that was put out a few years ago entitled “BLUEGRASS BOUQUET”. The four CDs are packaged in a thin cardboard cover with complete personnel listings as well as a four page spread with color photos of all the musicians. This is certainly an impressive set and should inspire many young female pickers to follow suit. **4-CDs: \$ 25.00**

PATUX-238 DANNY PAISLEY & THE SOUTHERN GRASS

“Road Into Town” Danny Paisley is one of the few remaining purveyors of tough, hard-edged down-home traditional Bluegrass, such as that played by his late dad, Bob Paisley, who had teamed up with Ted Lundy to form a wonderful band in the early days when the music was struggling. Here he gets help from Mark Delaney (banjo) and Michael Cleveland (mandolin & fiddle) on a nicely done 13 song project. Songs include CABIN ON A MOUNTAIN, ALCATRAZ ISLAND BLUES, CHEROKEE SHUFFLE, I OVERLOOKED AN ORCHID and I SAW YOUR FACE IN THE MOON. **\$ 13.50**

RC-126 THE FICTION TWINS This unusual but nicely done CD is completely the work of one person: Toshio Watanabe plays mandolin, and guitar and sings both the lead and tenor parts on the 14 songs of this Japanese import. In addition, Mr. Watanabe has done the package layout, borrowing elements of the old Bluebird label that was home to groups like the Monroe Brothers, Blue Sky Boys, and Delmore Brothers, among others. 7 of the 14 songs are old Monroe Brothers favorites, with the others coming from the repertoires of the Morris Brothers, Louvin Brothers, Mainers and Charlie Monroe. Mr. Watanabe is well known in the USA, running a mail order service in Japan since the 1960s, and as a member of the *Bluegrass 45*, an excellent Bluegrass group that made quite an impression in the USA with their appearances at various early Bluegrass festivals like Berryville and Bean Blossom. Evidently the music of the early brother duets fostered an early love for American country & Bluegrass music, and he does justice to the fine songs that he has picked out: LITTLE RED SHOES, VALLEY OF PEACE, ALABAMA, IN MY DEAR OLD SOUTHERN HOME, WEEPING WILLOW TREE, LITTLE ANNIE, etc. **\$ 15.00**

ROU-0648 STEEP CANYON RANGERS “Nobody Knows You”

This North Carolina band has made quite a name for itself in the past few years, playing basically straight, traditional Bluegrass (but featuring exclusively their own original songs, most of them written by banjo player Graham Sharp and bass player Charles Humphrey). Retaining the same 5 members for well over 7 years now, and having played a significant number of major venue dates with the comedian/banjo picker Steve Martin has helped the band develop a very tight, relaxed, and entertaining show. It has all paid off for them, as this album has won them a Grammy award as “Bluegrass Album Of The Year”. This release sports a nice packaging job and a solid dozen songs (including a fine remake of their fine instrumental KNOB CREEK. **\$ 13.50**

**MFR-130212 CUMBERLAND GAP CONNECTION “Another Song”**

Solid traditional Bluegrass from this 4-piece band from Kentucky. The group adds fiddle on some cuts. RAMBLER’S BLUES, JOHN DIG A HOLE, MIDNIGHT TRAIN, LEVI BIRMINGHAM, etc **\$ 13.50**

PCP-12001 CARL JACKSON “Grace Notes”

This is, simply put, a really wonderful album that is superb in every way and deserving of much attention. The idea behind it was to perform 12 gospel songs instrumentally on a dozen different guitars. The record is successful in at least three ways: a) Jackson’s picking is thoroughly tasteful and musical, b) Carl gets amazing tone from each of the guitars that he uses, and c) the songs he has chosen are indeed classics with great, distinctive melodies that will be recognized and appreciated by everyone who loves Bluegrass and gospel music. It’s a solo album and while the emphasis is on the variety of instruments that Jackson uses, his artistry and the tone he gets from all the guitars deserve the highest praise. Jackson introduces each tune with an explanation of how and where he got each of the guitars—a very nice feature. It is all fascinating, and it makes for great listening—I’m sure it will be a record that I keep coming back to. AMAZING GRACE, I’LL FLY AWAY, WHISPERING HOPE, HOW GREAT THOU ART, IN THE GARDEN, WAYFARING STRANGER, etc. **\$ 13.50**

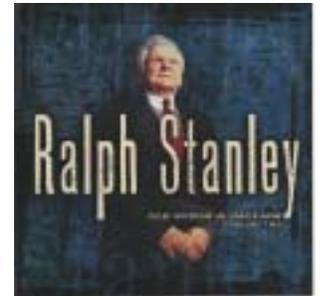
**BACM-398 THE BARRIER BROTHERS “Bluegrass Classics”**

This import from the British Archive label makes available all of the songs & tunes on two early LPs that came out on the Phillips label—a subsidiary of Mercury. Those who were following the music in those days (the early 1960s) will recall just how little Bluegrass was to be found on any of the major labels, with the exception of the “giants” of the genre, (Flatt & Scruggs, Reno & Smiley, Jimmy Martin, Mac Wiseman and the Stanley Brothers). So those of us who were hungry for the music were excited to find LPs such as these coming out. The Barriers, who made their base in the mid-west, were very competent musicians who were typical of many bands of the time who tried to make a living with Bluegrass without much success—they were able to perform regularly over various radio stations, but unable to command a living wage with personal appearances. Let’s take a look at the pros and cons of this record: On the plus side there are a generous 28 cuts, and the great Benny Martin played fiddle on some of the tracks here. On the negative side, The Barriers were mostly doing covers of Flatt & Scruggs pieces, the records included drums, and the sound quality is generally poor (or “funky” if one chooses not to be negative). Many older Bluegrass fans will have a soft spot for this group, and it is instructive to hear what was going on in the music back then. **\$ 15.00**

JS-86166 JOHNNY STAATS & THE DELIVERY BOYS “Time Moves On” Some will remember an earlier record by Staats on the ill-fated Giant label which folded not too long after the release of the record by Staats, a whiz on the mandolin who also happens to be a driver for the United Parcel Service. (Staats also has a good record out shared with West Virginia guitarist Robert Shafer, **CF-8131 “Homecoming Favorites, \$ 13.50**). The name of the game here is FAST, with most of the songs at breakneck speed. While I am not a fan of 50-notes-a-second-picking, I must say that Staats and his very competent group of local musicians pull this off quite well. (I didn’t recognize any of the other 4 pickers, who play fiddle, guitar, banjo and electric bass). In short, the technique demonstrated by Staats, banjo picker Butch Osborne and the others is amazing. Apart from a version of RIDER, the songs and tunes are all written by Staats (there are 10 tracks), with a particularly nice HANNAH’S LULLABY (I wish there were one or two more slow, sensitive cuts like this to break up the machine gun-like forays that fill the bulk of the album). NEVER MIND THE MULE, ODIE’S LAST STAND, BIG COAL RIVER, etc. **\$ 13.50**

REBEL-9501 RALPH STANLEY “Old Songs & Ballads”

This 10-song budget album features some of the older recordings that were made for early Rebel LPs but in most cases have not appeared to date on compact disc. Stanley sounds great on such classics as TRAIN 45, HEMLOCKS & PRIMROSES, ROCKY ISLAND, SHORT LIFE OF TROUBLE, THE ORPHAN GIRL GOLD WATCH & CHAIN and DAD’S OLD ROCKY FIELD, most of these recorded in the 1970s and 1980s. A fine and enjoyable album, and a bargain at just **\$ 8.00**



LO-580 KATHY KALLICK BAND “Time” A solid, nicely done album of traditional Bluegrass by Ms. Kallick. Here she fronts a band that includes mandolin picker Tom Bekeny, Annie Stanicec (fiddle), Dan Booth on bass, and Greg Booth (who plays banjo and is featured on dobro on a few cuts). The 14 tracks are a good mixture of Kallick originals, a trio of standards (DARK HOLLOW, THINKIN’ OF HOME, I’M LONESOME WITHOUT YOU) and 3 very nicely done gospel songs which might be the highlight of a good recording: LORD PROTECT MY SOUL, PRECIOUS MEMORIES and LONG TIME TRAVELIN’. There are also three instrumentals, one featuring Greg Booth’s dobro (SHUCKIN’ THE ACORNS). Kallick’s singing is strong but sensitive, and all the harmony vocals are excellent. **\$ 13.50**

THRILL-309 THE BLACK TWIG PICKERS

“Rough Carpenters” Here’s another among the ever growing number of excellent old-time bands that continue to spring up all over the country (this one is based in Southwestern Virginia). There are 5 members of the group if you count Joseph DeJarnette, who plays bass on some cuts and also engineered the recording. Sally Anne Morgan and Mike Gangloff share the fiddling, though the notes do not indicate what tunes each plays on. On some of the banjo playing it sounds like a gourd banjo is used, and one Nathan Bowles gets all sorts of interesting effects with washboard, bones, fiddlesticks and banjo. The 14 songs and tunes are a good mixture, with proper credits given to the old timers that the group learned from, like Burl Hammons, Henry Reed, Oscar Wright, Wilson Douglas, Melvin Wine, and Tommy Jarrell. Fiddle and banjo tunings are supplied for each tune, and the notes by Mike Gangloff are to the point and sufficient. Tracks include ROLL ON JOHN, ELKHORN RIDGE, BANKS OF THE ARKANSAS, JACK OF DIAMONDS, CHARLESTON GIRLS, LITTLE ROSE, etc. **\$ 13.50**



PATUX-240 THE STONEMANS “The Stoneman Tradition” Three Stoneman ladies continue a long tradition of old-time music that was started by their dad, Ernest “Pop” Stoneman back in the mid 1920s (!). Still performing after all these years are Patsy (Autoharp), Donna (mandolin) and Roni (banjo), and they create a warm, homestyle sound on 14 well-chosen songs and tunes that fit them well. They get a little help from Nate Grower (fiddle), Stu Geisbert (bass) and Jeremy Stephens (guitar), but basically the show is all theirs, with some solo picking by all three ladies. It’s nice to hear their versions of songs like THE RAGING SEA HOW IT ROARS, WEEPING WILLOW, DON’T LET YOUR DEAL GO DOWN, ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH and WHERE THE SOUL NEVER DIES (as well as the unexpected GOING HOME—a song co-written by Buzz Busby and Scotty Stoneman, another member of this prolific family who passed away some years ago). **\$ 13.50**

HJ-04 ERYNN MARSHALL & FRIENDS

“Tune Tramp” This is a wonderful album of old-time music that is first class in every way. Ms. Marshall, a good fiddler, works for the Blue Ridge Music Center along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia. To make this lovely album she has enlisted the services of no less than 40 other musicians whom she has befriended in her travels in the East, South, and Pacific Northwest. Most of the names will be recognized by old-time fans—the list includes Rafe Stefanini, Skip Gorman, Kirk Sutphin, Gerry Milnes, Arnie Naiman, Bruce Greene, Eddie Bond and many others. The 20 tunes & songs are well chosen and all beautifully played by Erynn with different combination of these friends; they range from hard core old time tunes like BOYS, MY MONEY’S ALL GONE, SHELVIN ROCK and BONAPARTE’S RETREAT to a Delmore style duet of FUGITIVE’S LAMENT (with Skip Gorman) and an early Bluegrass rendition of RAMBLER’S BLUES (shades of the early Stanley Brothers). A nice 16 page foldout provides good notes and tunings for the fiddle and banjo, plus a nice map showing where the various pickers are based. A neat CD—highly recommended! **\$ 13.50**



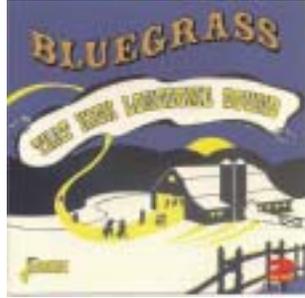
CEP-05 THE KENTUCKY CLODHOPPERS Easy going, nicely played old-time string band music from this 6-member group that includes 2 fiddles, banjo (old time), mandolin, guitar & upright bass. The band has picked out a nice selection of 22 mostly familiar old time tunes and it credits the source for each. Some of the tunes include vocals. HOOK & LINE, BOATIN’ UP SANDY, LOST JOHN, CALLAHAN, CUMBERLAND GAP, WISH I HAD MY TIME AGAIN, WAGONER, etc., **\$ 13.50**

OMM-1201 “Fiddle Whamdiddle” VI WICKAM & STEVE EULBERG (“Old School Old-Time”). Several years ago there was a steady flow of records featuring the hammered dulcimer, but it has been a while now since we’ve had one to add to the old-time library. This 15-track CD is nicely done, with 15 good tunes that all lend themselves to that instrument. Eulberg plays the hammered dulcimer and Wickam plays the fiddle—there is no other accompaniment, but none is really needed as the two musicians create a full and enjoyable sound. Nice renditions of LIBERTY, MISS McLEOD’S REEL, BOIL THEM CABBAGE DOWN, ST ANNE’S REEL, SPIDER BIT THE BABY, SPOTTED PONY, BARLOW KNIFE, etc. **\$ 13.50**

RVR-12008 TYLER HUGHES “Wise County Jail”

Hughes is a young musician from southwest Virginia who sings and plays banjo & guitar in a nice old-time style. He gets some help on some of the 10 songs & tunes here from Todd Meade, who joins Hughes variously on fiddle or acoustic bass. The songs chosen are all favorites in Hughes’ part of the country, with some of the sources being The Carter Family and Dock Boggs. Good renditions of FORSAKEN LOVE, BANKS OF THE OLD TENNESSEE, SUZANNA GAL, MID THE GREEN FIELDS OF VIRGINIA, PRETTY POLLY, etc. **\$ 13.50**

JASM-3608/9 BLUEGRASS—“That High Lonesome Sound” This 2-CD import from England came as a real surprise to us and should delight those looking for some prime examples of early Bluegrass (with a few standard classics thrown in for good measure). The 48-track compilation was put together by a British collector, Al Turner, who obviously knows the music and had access to a bunch of odd-label rarities that most fans of the music (including us) will never have seen or heard. While the quality of the music varies, it’s all worth hearing. (The sound quality also varies, but that is understandable considering the sources and the fact that it makes use of both old 78s and 45rpm discs from the 1950s and 60s). No need to comment on the cuts by the major artists like Sonny Osborne (from the Kentucky label), Flatt & Scruggs, Bill Monroe, Reno & Smiley, Jim & Jesse and The Stanley Brothers (from Mercury)—these make up only 18% of the songs, and we can’t imagine anyone who won’t enjoy hearing these classics again. A second tier of entries includes odd-label numbers by artists that we all know and love, like Bill Clifton and Jim Eanes (Starday), Carl Sauceman (Republic), The Lilly Brothers (Event) and the Church Brothers (Blue Ridge), etc. What will really excite the “old mossy” collectors and fans are obscure recordings of artists like Hobo Jack (Lucky label), The Wright Brothers, The Red Heads on BMC (Red Allen & Frank Wakefield), the Rouse Brothers’ Orange Blossom Special (on DeLuxe), Red Belcher (Cozy), The Rainbow Valley Boys (Excello), Curly Dan & Jim Maynard (on Clix), Delmer Sexton (Blue Jay), Dave Woolum & Noah Crase (Excellent), Nelson Young (Madison), Bill Perry (on Blue Grass label), Lucky Chapman (with John Duffey), and the Huntsinger Brothers with Jim Shumate on the Faith label, in what may be the original cut of OLD COUNTRY BAPTIZING. There are numerous other neat tracks that the customer can look forward to discovering. MY WEST VA. ROSE, I WILL NOT BE DENIED, CRUEL JEALOUS HEART, I FEEL SO LONESOME, CHOO CHOO COMING, DON’T BLAME ME, etc. 2-CD set: **\$ 18.00**



BHM-005 THE EARL BROTHERS “Outlaw Hill-billy” This band from California has a consistent—if funky—sound that is at times reminiscent of some early Bluegrass or pre-Bluegrass groups. Many of their songs are in minor keys, many making use of a driving $\frac{3}{4}$ time similar to some early Stanley Brothers recordings. There are just 9 songs here, all of them band originals. It’s a standard 5-piece Bluegrass band, but the album doesn’t quite fit in the traditional category, and certainly not in the contemporary mold. It’s a distinctive sound that may well grow on those who like something different. **\$ 13.50**

WTR-001 WAYNE TAYLOR “It’s About Time” A solid, enjoyable album of straight Bluegrass that should please the traditional and contemporary fan equally. All but 3 of the dozen songs are originals by Taylor, who is bass player and one of the lead singers in the great *Blue Highway* band. He has a lot of excellent musicians helping him here, including Tom Adams (guitar), Ron Stewart (banjo & fiddle), and Jesse Brock (mandolin), as well as fine harmony singing by The Whites and Darrin & Brooke Aldridge.

\$ 13.50

BACM-389 CECIL SURRATT & SMITTY SMITH “Last Mile Of The Way” Surratt & Smith recorded for the King label at a time when King was one of the few major labels recording good Bluegrass. This duo had the right pedigree, and did put out a few genuine Bluegrass songs & instrumentals, but they never caught on as a favorite of Bluegrass fans because most of their recordings were country & western (and not particularly good C & W at that). Apart from a few singles, King issued an early LP on the ultra-rare Audio Lab label, and a few of their better tracks appeared there (the BACM label has included everything from that LP on this 27-cut collection). Tracks include CHICKEN REEL, I’M NEVER TO MARRY, THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND, NEVER GROW OLD, LOST INDIAN, POOR ELLEN SMITH, etc **\$ 15.00**

SOTM-62011 SONG OF THE MOUNTAINS Season Six (Various Artists) “Song of the Mountains” is a concert series based in Abingdon, Virginia that has been running weekly on some public television stations since 2005. The series has included over 200 bands, mostly—but not exclusively—featuring musicians from Southwestern Virginia, North Carolina and east Tennessee. This 20-track CD is drawn from what must be an extensive library of songs and tunes in what is billed as a collection of “Bluegrass, Old-Time, Celtic, Gospel, Country and Americana” live performances. While there are several really nice cuts here, overall the selection of material is a mixed bag, and the quality level of the talent varies greatly. In our estimation, less than half of the 20 songs and tunes are worthwhile listening. Among the notable pieces are those by Snyder Family, The Grascals, McPeak Brothers, Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers, The Primitive Quartet and Michael Reno Harrell, and Donna Ulisse, plus a really nice job by Doc Watson and Jeff Little on WHISKEY BEFORE BREAKFAST (Little plays a really neat country piano). **NOTE:** This CD has a corresponding DVD (SOTM-2011-DVD, \$ 18.00), but it only has 15 cuts. **\$ 13.50**

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