



# NEWSLETTER #333

January - February 2015

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**SADLY, WE CONTINUE** to lose some of the great people who did so much to popularize Bluegrass music over the years—the latest loss being **DIXIE HALL**, who passed away on January 16 after fighting a brain tumor for over a year. The words TOM T. and DIXIE HALL are to be found in the composer credits to many a Bluegrass song. “Miss Dixie” as she was known, came to Nashville from England and worked for the Music City News there and Starday Records, before marrying Tom T. Hall. She was a friend to many aspiring Bluegrass musicians, and the couple supplied many with fine songs and free access to the Hall’s recording studio. She also did much to promote women in Bluegrass and she will be greatly missed by many.

**RAY DAVIS**, one of the great DJs and a real promoter of Bluegrass music, died on December 3, 2014. Davis—known for his radio broadcasts for “Johnny’s Used Car Lot” in Baltimore, his Wango record label and his “Basement Tapes” of great Bluegrass acts like the Stanley Brothers, Charlie Moore, Don Reno & Bill Harrell among others—was extremely popular in the Washington DC area, and had much to do with creating a large market there for Bluegrass music back as far as the early 1950s.

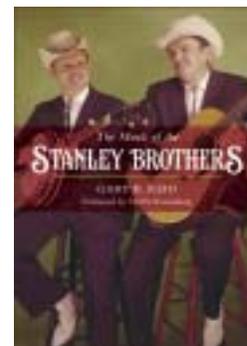
We also noted the passing of **PAUL CRAFT** back on October 18, 2014. He was well known for writing songs like **BROTHER JUKEBOX**, **RAISED BY THE RAILROAD LINE**, and **THROUGH THE BOTTOM OF THE GLASS** among others (several of his best were recorded by the Seldom Scene). Many may not know that he also was a member of Jimmy Martin’s Sunny Mountain boys for a time, playing banjo in the band.

## CAMP CREEK BOYS RE-ISSUED

After being out of print for a considerable time, this classic and very influential old-time album has been re-issued by County Records. Originally recorded in 1967, it features one of the great string bands of the southern mountains, made up of Kyle Creed, Fred Cockerham, Earnest East, Verlen Clifton, Paul Sutphin, and Ronald Collins. The album has been repackaged with graphics by David Lynch, and retains the original notes by Paul Brown. This month only, we are offering this album at the **SPECIAL PRICE of just \$ 10.00**. (Our regular price is \$ 13.50)

## MUSIC OF THE STANLEY BROTHERS arrives!

We are excited to announce the arrival of Gary Reid’s new book on the Stanley Brothers. We will have a bit more of a “review” of this in a future Newsletter, but suffice it to say that fans of the Stanleys will welcome this addition to the Bluegrass library. Gary Reid is the undisputed expert on the Stanley Brothers, and he has done an amazing amount of research in this 286-page work. The format is somewhat similar to the **MUSIC OF BILL MONROE** book that Charles Wolfe and Neil Rosenberg put out a few years ago—a song by song, session by session, examination of the Stanley’s recorded repertoire, starting with their Rich-R-Tone 78s. Published by the University of Illinois Press, 2015, 286 pp. softbound. **\$ 25.00**



Purchase Amount	\$4.00-29.99	\$30.00-59.99	\$60.00-139.99	\$140.00-199.99	Over \$200.00
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## **SPECIAL SALE ON SOME FAVORITE ARTISTS & GROUPS**

It is our feeling that some really great records are overlooked for one reason or another, or are unknown to fans who have become interested in the music more recently. This month we are featuring a special sale on some selected CDs by several of our favorite artists in the Bluegrass and Old-Time categories. The following albums are all on sale this month at the **SPECIAL PRICE of JUST \$ 9.00 each**—which is a savings of \$ 4.50 per disc off our regular price (!). These are all wonderful records that we can recommend highly!

**BALSAM RANGE** This North Carolina band features the fine singing of Buddy Melton. All of their records include some great songs (like TRAINS I MISSED and PAPERTOWN)

MH-1142	“Marching Home”
MH-1206	“Last Train To Kitty Hawk”
MH-1295	“Trains I Missed”
MH-1404	“Papertown”
MH-1533	“Five”

**SELDOM SCENE** The Seldom Scene was finally inducted into the Bluegrass Hall of Fame—long overdue. “Old Train” may be their best ever album, and their “Live At The Cellar Door” is legendary.

REB-1101	“Best Of The Seldom Scene”
REB-1103	“Live At The Cellar Door”
REB-1511	“Act 1”
REB-1536	“Old Train”

**BIG COUNTRY BLUEGRASS** A wonderful regional band that plays a fine brand of Traditional Bluegrass. The two REBEL CDs both contain great songs by Tom T. & Dixie Hall.

REB-1838	“The Boys In Hats & Ties”
REB-1848	“Memories Of The Past”
HH-1361	“My Old Virginia Home
HH-1364	“The Real Deal”

**MARK JOHNSON** Johnson’s lovely combination of clawhammer and Scruggs style banjo are not only Unique, but thoroughly musical, and each of these 4 CDs is a gem!

BANG-2	“Acoustic Campaign”
BANG-5	“Acoustic Vision”
BANG-6	“1863”
MH-1100	“Acoustic Rising”

**NORMAN BLAKE** Not bluegrass, and not folk, Blake has his own distinctive acoustic style. A good songwriter and fine flat pick guitarist, his down-home country style is unique.

PLECT-0401	“Rising Fawn Gathering”
PLECT-0451	“Green Light On The Southern”
PLECT-1211	“Back Home In Sulphur Springs”
PLECT-1256	“Shacktown Road”
SHAN-6053	“Flower From the Fields of Alabama”

**PAUL WILLIAMS** With a dozen Rebel albums to his credit, it’s hard to pick “the best”, but every one of these are gems with some great gospel Bluegrass

REB-1754	“Old Ways & Old Paths”
REB-1774	“Hard Working Pilgrim”
REB-1830	“What A Journey”
REB-1844	“Satisfied”

## SPECIAL SALE ON OLD BLUE LABEL

There have been some excellent records released over the past few years on lesser known labels—both Old-Time and Bluegrass. With most record stores out of business now, you'll have a tough time trying to find these anywhere now, but we are proud that we can offer these, and at a bargain price!

The following albums are all on sale this month at the **SPECIAL PRICE of JUST \$ 9.00 each**—which is a savings of \$ 4.50 per disc off our regular price (!). These are all wonderful records that we can recommend highly

- OB-502**      **BANJO LESSONS on KYLE's BACK PORCH (Kyle Creed)**
- OB-701**      **THE SOLOMON FAMILY 'THREE GENERATIONS of CHAMPION TEXAS FIDDLERS**
- OB-702**      **LARRY RICHARDSON & THE BLUE RIDGE BOYS**
- OB-703**      **NEW NORTH CAROLINA RAMBLERS "Cotton Mill Blues"**
- OB-704**      **NEW NORTH CAROLINA RAMBLERS "Four & A Half"**
- OB-705**      **KIRK SUTPHIN & RILEY BAUGUS "Long Time Piedmont Pals"**
- OB-706**      **NEW NORTH CAROLINA RAMBLERS "Live & Lively"**
- OB-707**      **TED LUNDY & THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAIN BOYS**
- OB-708**      **IN THE FIELD, BEHIND THE STAGE: Recordings made at the Galax  
Old Time Fiddlers conventions in 1967 and 2010**
- OB-709**      **FIDDLE CLASSICS from the vaults of County & Old Blue records**
- OB-710**      **BANJO CLASSICS from County and Old Blue label (Various Artists)**
- OB-711**      **THE STAGE HOGS "Tribute To The Hill Billies**
- OB-712**      **NEW NORTH CAROLINA RAMBLERS "Tribute To Charlie Poole"**

The OLD BLUE label was started by the late Charlie Faurot, one of the early field recording collectors of authentic rural music in the 1960s. Faurot specialized in old time banjo styles, and much of his work was done in the Galax, Virginia and Round Peak North Carolina areas. Among the artists that were first recorded by Faurot were Tommy Jarrell, Kyle Creed, and Fred Cockerham. All of them were outstanding musicians who in turn influenced a whole generation of young pickers. Early on most of Faurot's recordings were issued on the County label—first on LP, then later on CD.

The "Fiddle Classics" and "Banjo Classics" CDs feature an impressive sampling of the music that Charlie recorded, and **OLD BLUE-708** is a very interesting collection of cuts, some made at the 1967 Galax Fiddlers' Convention, other made in the same place but in the year 2010! Among the more recent OLD BLUE releases were 4 albums of the NEW NORTH CAROLINA RAMBLERS—all nicely played old-time string band music, and one of which is a tribute to the music of Charlie Poole. Another good tribute recording features the Stage Hogs doing old Hill Billies tunes. Another excellent CD features two fine musicians from Southwestern Virginia, Riley Baugus and Kirk Sutphin (**OB-705**)

Faurot also recorded two of the premier early Bluegrass bands who were popular locally and were also regulars at the Galax, Va. and Union Grove, N.C. Fiddlers' conventions: Larry Richardson & The Blue Ridge Boys and Ted Lundy's Southern Mountain Boys. And when Faurot came to work in Texas for his day job, he recorded some of the great Texas fiddlers like Benny Thomasson, and the Franklins. From those recordings he assembled the superb SOLOMON FAMILY fiddle record (**OB-701**)

**ROC-3276 BILL MONROE “Live 1964”**

Currently—and surprisingly—there is not a whole lot of Bill Monroe’s recorded repertoire available—apart from the wonderful (but expensive) Bear Family boxed sets. It is then somewhat surprising that more “Live show” recordings have not come out (possibly due to the fact that any such issues could meet with legal problems from the major labels)—this will likely change in the future.

For the serious Monroe fan, this album is worth noting and recommending. For starters it contains over 25 songs & tunes—a good selection of Bill’s hits mixed in with lesser known songs. It also features a number of cuts on which Monroe

is joined by Doc Watson—these are really nice (some or all of these may have come from a rare bootleg LP on the “Fly By Night” label that circulated years ago). There are good notes by Mark Humphrey, though aside from Doc Watson, Humphrey fails to identify other members of the Bluegrass Boys who appear on the album. (From the cover photo it looks like Peter Rowan, Gene Lowinger, and Lamar Grier made up the group for some—if not most—of the songs & tunes). From Monroe’s few introductions it is clear that some of the cuts featured Jack Cooke and Benny Williams (this was all pre-Kenny Baker on fiddle). This is a good all around album that gives the listener a good idea of Monroe’s shows in the 60s. **\$ 13.50**

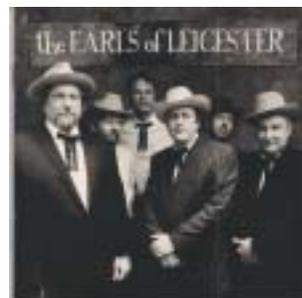
**PATUX-253 JAMES LEVA “All Over The Map”**

Quite disappointed after playing the first 4 cuts on this album, I was about to relegate it to the “also ran” box. But James Leva is a good old time musician and I felt I had better give this disc another chance. For one thing, it is very attractively packaged. Second, Mr. Leva is joined here by ace cello player Tristan Claridge (once with the fine Crooked Still band), and Nora Jane Struthers, who sings very pleasantly on a few numbers. (Leva’s daughter Vivian also joins in on some of the vocals). And once into the bulk of this 17-track album, Leva and his crew get going with their versions of many really good old songs and tunes, such as LITTLE SATCHEL, DEVIL IN THE HAYSTACK, KATY DEAR, ROUSTABOUT, WHITE OAK MOUNTAIN and TALK ABOUT SUFFERING. Leva provides his own little touches to most of the songs, and he is forthright in listing the sources for all of them. It turns out to be a very nice record. **\$ 13.50**

**BACM-465 COUNTRY MUSIC ON THE EXCELLENT LABEL—Volume 1.** The Excellent label, out of Cincinnati, Ohio, was one of a number of small regional labels that issued Country and Bluegrass music on 78rpm discs in the early 1950s (this label went on to later release 45s as well). The England based British Archive label has been doing a nice job in presenting this type of material for the die-hard collector, with their CDs usually containing anywhere from 25 to 30 tracks. The Excellent label featured more early Bluegrass music than most other companies, and while nothing here is spectacular, there are some interesting artists and songs. Most recognizable may be Dave Woolum, Taylor Porter, Charles Sidebottom and the funky instrumentalist Ray Lunsford and his electric mandolin. Woolum (who often paired with the fine early Scruggs style banjo picker Noah Craase) had a few records that actually sold fairly well—these included MAPLE ON THE HILL, ROLLING STONE and SINGLE GIRL. For those fascinated by the early days of Bluegrass, this CD should be of more interest than most in this series. Import: **\$ 15.00**

**ROU-35772 THE EARLS OF LEICESTER**

Those who learned to love Lester Flatt & Earl Scruggs from those yellow & black label Columbia 45s in the late 1950s will really appreciate this highly enjoyable CD—which is a wonderful tribute to Flatt & Scruggs and especially their fine dobro player, Josh Graves. Jerry Douglas was among those who took inspiration from the records that Flatt & Scruggs were making in that period, so who better to organize this project? The group here features Charlie Cushman on banjo, Johnny Warren on fiddle, Shawn Camp on vocals & guitar, Barry Bales on bass, Tim O’Brien on mandolin and vocals, and of course Douglas himself on dobro. The 14 songs and tunes they pick include DON’T LET YOUR DEAL GO DOWN, BIG BLACK TRAIN, I DON’T CARE ANYMORE, SHUCKIN THE CORN, ON MY MIND, I WON’T BE HANGING AROUND, SOME OLD DAY and YOU’RE NOT A DROP IN THE BUCKET. The “Earls” capture the essence and spirit of this great period when Bluegrass was becoming familiar to a wide variety of new converts. Hats off to Douglas and the other musicians here for a job well done! **\$ 13.50**



**PATUX-259 MONROE FIELDS “1950s-60s Radio Broadcasts”** The Patuxent label has been bringing us lots of well produced, interesting projects in the past year or two, both Bluegrass and Old-Time music. Among them have been some welcome albums like this one, which presents 13 songs “rescued” from old radio shows of the 1950s & early 60s. Presenting Fields as the headliner is actually somewhat misleading, because it was really Carl Sauceman and the Green Valley Boys’ band, and Monroe Fields was just the mandolin player and vocalist. But no matter: it is still good to be able to hear what a typical country/Bluegrass band sounded like on its radio shows of the period. And Carl Sauceman’s group was a regionally popular outfit, though it didn’t make that many commercial recordings. In addition to Fields, the other members of the band here were Jim Brock (fiddle), Fred Richardson or Buddy Rose on banjo, J.P. Sauceman on bass and Carl Sauceman on guitar & tenor vocal. A good record here with excellent notes by Dick Spottswood. **\$ 13.50**

**WR-8336 MAC WISEMAN “Songs From My Mother’s Hand”** Though Mac Wiseman—in a long and illustrious career—has recorded over 60 albums of various shades of country, folk, and Bluegrass music (and even some pop), he has always been known as a singer of “heart songs”, and that is exactly what this album contains. It’s a gentle, soulful presentation of old songs that Mac’s mother copied down from the radio broadcasts and taught to Mac. The accompaniment is simple but appropriate, led by the pleasant guitar work of Jimmy Capps and Thomm Jutz (the album’s producer). Also to be heard is Sierra Hull (mandolin & some harmony vocals), Mark Fain on bass, Alisa Jones Wall on hammered dulcimer, and Justin Moses on fiddle. The songs are all old time favorites like LITTLE ROSEWOOD CASKET, LAMP LIGHTING TIME IN THE VALLEY, WRECK OF THE NUMBER 9, ANSWER TO WEEPING WILLOW, THE EASTBOUND TRAIN, etc. It’s all presented in a warm, simple fashion by one of the truly great Bluegrass and country artists. **\$ 13.50**



**BB-2014 BECKY BULLER “Tween Earth & Sky”** Ms. Buller is known as a good songwriter, fiddler and vocalist who has played in the bands of various artists such as Valerie Smith. In this well produced CD, her voice is the strongest we’ve heard it, and she is backed by a variety of excellent musicians including Bryan Sutton, Sam Bush, Tim O’Brien, Ron Block, Kenny Smith, Rob Ickes, Peter Rowan, Scott Vestal and Darrin & Brooke Aldridge. The songs are just about all her own compositions and they work well together. **\$ 13.50**

**JSP-5403 VARIOUS ARTISTS “Ya Gotta Quit Kickin’ My Dog Around”** Known primarily for its bargain 4-CD collections, Britain’s JSP label has something different here, with a single CD anthology of 21 old-time songs and tunes taken from classic 78s of the 1920s and 30s. The theme here—as noted in the album’s lengthy sub-title—is “Songs That Seeded the Folk Revival of the 1960s”. (Before we go on, please note that all 21 cuts here have been taken from various other previously issued JSP 4-CD sets—so serious collectors may not need this item). The selections—by such artists as Delmore Brothers, Cliff Carlisle, the Carter Family, etc—are well chosen, and include songs like BLUES IN A BOTTLE, COO COO BIRD, JOHN HENRY BLUES, FRANKIE DEAN, TOM DOOLEY, FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW, MAN OF CONSTANT SORROW and STACKALEE, done by artists like Prince Albert Hunt, Frank Hutchison, Kelly Harrell, Grayson & Whitter, and Clarence Ashley. The notes to the songs are somewhat curious, concentrating on what other Folk and Pop artists cut them after learning them from the legendary Harry Smith Folkways collection. While it may be instructive to see what pieces Bob Dylan likely learned from, do we really need to know that Roy Acuff’s RISING SUN was also recorded by the likes of Marianne Faithful, Frijid Pink, and Frankie Laine? All in all, this is a nice sampling of vintage old time music. **\$ 15.00**

**MCM-0018 ROB McCOURY “The Five String Flame Thrower”** The son of a Bluegrass legend and brother of one of the great mandolin players of today (Ronnie McCoury), banjo picking Rob has likely lacked the attention of those other family members, but this album should remind us all of his abilities. He has all the talent needed to shine as he does here, and it doesn’t hurt to have such backing musicians as Jason Carter (Fiddle), Alan Bartram (Bass), Bobby & Sonny Osborne, as well as Del and Ronnie McCoury. What we really like about this album is the choice of tunes that Rob has picked out. They remind us of—and pay tribute to—the greats of years past: Don Reno’s superb BANJO RIFF, LIMEHOUSE BLUES and CHARLOTTE BREAKDOWN, J.D. Crowe’s BLACK JACK, Earl Scruggs’ wonderful FOGGY MOUNTAIN CHIMES and Walt Hensley’s SUGAR CREEK, as well as a pair of traditional tunes, JOHN HENRY and KANSAS CITY RAILROAD BLUES. Ronnie, Del, and Bobby Osborne handle a few vocals, as does Rob. A really fine CD! **\$ 13.50**



**PATUX-256 RUSS CARSON “Avenue Of The Giants** From Pennsylvania, Carson is a solid Bluegrass banjo player who has a very enjoyable album here, with a good selection of songs and tunes, and an impressive group of backing musicians. Instrumentally the band consists of Audie Blaylock (guitar), Jesse Brock (mandolin), Patrick McAvinue (fiddle), Jason Moore (bass) and Kenny Smith (lead guitar), in addition to Carson’s banjo (Russ plays clawhammer banjo on two pieces, NEW RIVER TRAIN and CHARLIE’S NEAT. Six of the cuts include vocals, and these are nicely furnished by Audie Blaylock, Darrell Webb, and Eddie Rose. Nicely done. **\$ 13.50**

**PRICE-2013 THE PRICE FAMILY “Bluegrass Backroads—Roads Less Traveled”** For

those of us who love the traditional styles of Bluegrass, this album is a real treat, and lets us know that the music is in good hands for the future. Lauren and Leanna Price are barely out of their teens, but their love for and involvement in Bluegrass is clearly evident.



Lauren on mandolin and Leanna on fiddle are joined by their dad Tim on guitar, and mom Rhonda on some harmony vocals. They have also wisely enlisted help from guests Byron Berline and one of our favorite mandolinists, Mike Compton. Fascinating is the fact that the girls are so heavily influenced by the music of Bill Monroe: Ten of the 13 cuts are songs and tunes from Monroe’s repertoire, including heavy stuff like BLUE NIGHT, LONESOME MOONLIGHT WALTZ, BLUEGRASS TWIST, LITTLE GEORGIA ROSE and I BELIEVED IN YOU DARLIN. And any fan of Monroe will get a kick out of hearing Lauren whip through GET UP JOHN! This is a neat album, and we can’t wait to see what these ladies do next! **\$ 13.50**

**BB-0004 THE BROTHERS BARTON “New Love”**

At one time the Barton Brothers (Paul and Loren) played (or at least made a record) with Richard Greene, so it is not totally surprising that their music is on the “adventurous” or “modern” side of Bluegrass. You won’t find many groups that would go from the progressive DIALING IN THE DOG, NEW LOVE and EZRA’S APPROACH to a very straight version of the gospel classic SOMETHING GOT HOLD OF ME. It’s a very strange but interesting combination of songs and tunes, but the brothers seem to be completely at home with things. They add another couple of gospel songs, THE KING & I and DISCOVERING YOU, as well as the pretty normal UNCLE PEN’S OIL and a rousing, well played instrumental, PINEAPPLE BRITCHES. They then top things off with a mandolin & guitar version of the STAR SPANGLED BANNER! Interesting. **\$ 13.50**

**MH-1563 LONESOME RIVER BAND “Turn On A Dime”** Led by ace Banjo picker Sammy Shelor, the Lonesome River Band continues to be among the top Bluegrass bands active today. Their sound here is a bit more contemporary and a bit less “Lonesome” than on past records, but Shelor knows how to arrange their material and make the most of a solid, cohesive group. Brandon Rickman—who has been part of the group for quite a while now—sings lead and plays guitar, with another longtime LRB member, Mike Hartgrove on fiddle. Rounding out the current band are Randy Jones (mandolin) and Barry Reed (bass). Most of the songs are new to the Bluegrass repertoire—highlights are a nice performance of HOLDING TO THE RIGHT HAND and Sammy Shelor’s arrangement of CUMBERLAND GAP, **\$ 13.50**

**GSMA-0949 CARROLLBEST & THE WHITE OAK STRING BAND**

The name Carroll Best may not mean much to the average Bluegrass or Old-Time fan, but to a number of banjo pickers he is a semi legendary musician. A very little bit of his playing appeared on one or two records in the past, but this new set gives us a much better picture of the picker, with 37 tracks recorded at 3 sessions in 1956 and 1959. And yes, he is significant for being one of the early three finger pickers. It’s clear that he was emulating Earl Scruggs



part of the time, but he had his own unique style that was neither old time or strictly Scruggs. (Some claim he was picking out fiddle tunes in the manner of Bobby Thompson and Bill Keith before they came along—we don’t see that, at least not from this record.). The 37 tracks on this CD are mainly fiddle tunes that also feature some very nice fiddling by one Billy Kirkpatrick—these are all basically field recordings and most fall in the one minute to two minute category. The whole package is beautifully presented with a booklet of more than 40 pages and notes to each of the tunes. Best—who died in 1995—came from the Hayward County area of the Smoky Mountains. **\$ 15.00**

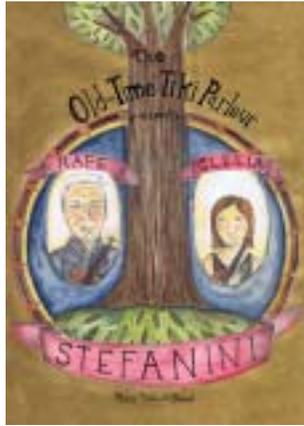
**MFR-140812 THE SPINNEY BROTHERS “Tried & True”**

One of the top Canadian Bluegrass groups, the Spinney Brothers are achieving success in the USA now with hard work, a good band sound, and some good songs. On this 12 song release they get a bit of backing help from Ron Stewart on fiddle and Rob Ickes on dobro. A good mixture of songs includes pieces from Pete Goble, Edgar Loudermilk, Bill Castle and Ed Hamilton. **\$ 13.50**

**DVD-TIKI-9900 RAFE & CLELIA STEFANINI**

**“At The Old-Time Tiki Parlour”** Rafe Stefanini is one of the finest fiddlers on the scene today, having transplanted himself to Pennsylvania from his native Italy after he fell in love with the old-time music of the southern mountains (he has made 3 superb fiddle records for the County label, among other things). He has been making his home in the USA since 1983, and on this excellent DVD he is joined by his daughter, Clelia, who has been playing since she was 14 and is now a top-notch fiddler in her own right. There are 16 tracks here, some featuring two fiddles, some just Rafe, and some with Clelia on fiddle and Rafe on clawhammer banjo. Two of the pieces also include vocals by Rafe (WALKING BOSS and LET ME FALL). An 8-page insert provides tunings and brief notes on the tunes, which include DUSTY MILLER, SALES TAX TODDLE, OLD TIME TRAIN 45, FORT SMITH BREAKDOWN, HOG EYED MAN, LADY HAMILTON, JACK WILSON, DAVY COME BACK HOME and CRIPPLE CREEK among others. This is a wonderful video for all who love old time fiddle!

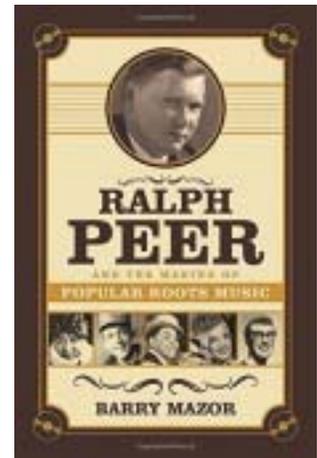
**\$ 18.00**



**MCR-1002 LARRY CORDLE & LONESOME STANDARD TIME “All-Star Duets”** The Nashville based Cordle is well known as a top writer, having written songs that have been picked up and recorded by some of Country music’s biggest names. He is also known as a friend to Bluegrass. On this album he shares duets (actually alternate leads) with 12 of his Nashville friends, including Garth Brooks, Kathy Mattea, Trisha Yearwood, Dierks Bentley, Travis Tritt, Alison Kraus and Ricky Skaggs (HIGHWAY 40 BLUES), among others, but puts everything into a Bluegrass setting. He makes use of a variety of skilled musicians here, like Stuart Duncan, Andy Leftwich, Carl Jackson, Kristen Scott Benson, and Boobie Beach. Who can forget his “Murder on Music Row”, which made few friends in Nashville—it is here sung by Cordle with Daryle Singletary. An interesting and well done recording. **\$ 13.50**

**BOOK: RALPH PEER & THE MAKING OF POPULAR ROOTS MUSIC**

by Barry Mazor, (Chicago Review Press, 2015), 316 pages, Hard bound. Those who have had the occasion to read Mazor’s earlier book *MEETING JIMMIE RODGERS*, will not be surprised at the thoroughness and detail that the author has put in to this important new publication about one of the key figures in promoting the popularity and importance of “roots music”. Ralph Peer had a major hand in helping to open the door for country, Jazz, and blues musicians as far back as the early 1920s, first for the Okeh label, then for Victor. He is best known for “discovering”



Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family, but he dealt with countless musicians, proving that there was a significant market for authentic rural music on phonograph records. He had a fascinating career in the music business, and this is well documented by Mazor, who provides all sorts of interesting facts about recording and publishing. The book includes 16 pages of photographs and a good index. For anyone interested in the workings of the music business, this is an amazing, thoroughly researched book. **\$ 25.00**

**KGB-005 LYNDA DAWSON & PATTIE HOPKINS “Traditional Duets”**

A nicely done and very pleasant 13 track album by two ladies from North Carolina, who are otherwise known as part of the *Kickin’ Grass Band*. Hopkins plays the fiddle and Dawson the guitar—both sing. They have picked out a nice program of good songs, such as COLD RAIN & SNOW, TRAIN ON THE ISLAND, A DISTANT LAND TO ROAM, DARK AS THE NIGHT, RED ROCKING CHAIR and YOUR LONE JOURNEY.

**\$ 13.50**

**SMM-2014 THE TRAYNHAM FAMILY “Merry Mountain Hoedown”**

An enjoyable 16-track collection of old time string band music from Southwestern Virginia (an area of the country where this music still thrives). This family group consists of Mac, Jenny and Hannah Traynham. They perform an interesting assortment of tunes and songs and credit such sources as Hobart Smith, Wade Ward, Ola Belle Reed, Ivan Weddle, Norman Edmonds, and the Carter Family. Songs and tunes include LAST CHANCE, PRETTY LITTLE GIRL, POOR ORPHAN CHILD, LONG TONGUED WOMAN, CUCKOO BIRD, HIGH ON A MOUNTAIN, etc. **\$ 13.50**

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### **ADDITIONAL NEW RELEASES NOW IN STOCK**

Unless otherwise noted, all CDs are \$ **13.50**

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