



Pickin' in the Pines 2009

By Darcy Falk

Besides all the great music on the main stage and workshop stages, there were quite a few other memorable moments during this year's festival. If you missed it, check out our Youtube channel, and the hundreds of great photos taken at the festival. (Pickininthepines.org has links to both Youtube and the photos.*) Here are a few highlights as told to me over the past month:

- Jamming in the campground Friday night with the Freight Hoppers.
- The hailstorm on Saturday afternoon...memorable, but maybe not a highlight!
- The Bears and the Bees' set on Friday afternoon (and striped socks), plus Anna Ramsey's tour of her homemade drum kit during their workshop.
- Hula hoops (for kids of all ages), face-painting, and chasing bulletproof bubbles on the lawn. Todd's Musical Petting Zoo with about gazillion stringed instruments!
- Our really terrific volunteers, all 120 of them! Our three really terrific emcees: Peter Bruce, Brian McNeal and Tony Norris.
- Julie Sullivan's outstanding t-shirt designs, so popular we ran out of almost all the sizes of shirts!
- Eric and Leigh Gibson jamming in the campground Saturday night with the gals from Whistle Stop Bluegrass.
- Presenting checks worth \$1700 to the top three band contest winners (thanks to our band contest sponsors!)
- The looks on the kids' faces as puppeteers Laura Freeman and Heather Jarry performed *Iris Saves the Land of Black and White*.
- Bill Burke's luthier workshop on Sunday morning.
- Sharon Mitchell's hammer dulcimer workshop.
- The sunny disposition of Wendy Graham, our contra dance caller.
- Claire Lynch singing *Who Knows What Tomorrow Will Bring?* Sunday afternoon.
- The Old Blue Sound guys kicking up their heels onstage, as Michael Donelson played the bagpipes to open the festival.

We know there's still room for improvement, but we're heartened by the many encouraging comments, like the following, taken from the surveys:

- *All of the bands were very entertaining. Great line-up this year! Keep up the good work!*
- *You have come a long way in producing/presenting. PIP has a place in the national festival scene. Well done! It was a great weekend! Thank you.*

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- *Great festival. Great music! It was hard to pick a favorite act, loved so many of them, like Claire Lynch, the Freighthoppers, Steep Canyon Rangers, The Bears and the Bees.*
- *Musicians from the show and their interaction with the crowd when not on stage was really personal.*
- *Thanks for making the local groups a continual part of the best that PIP has become. Love it. Love you guys (FFOTM). Love Flagstaff and the great people who make this festival so very special!!!*

Hope to see you at the festival next year, September 17, 18 & 19, 2010. Keep watching the FFOTM newsletter for updates; acts are already being booked for next year's lineup.

**Thanks to Joanna Joseph and Carol Pearse for posting video on Youtube, and to our really great photographers: Kyra Oellig, Kate Watters, Gary Dunn, Michael Bielecki and "Flagstaff Rob" Dutton.*

President's Message

By Jesse Anderson

On behalf of FFOTM and the board, I'd like to congratulate the entire Pickin' in the Pines crew for another great festival and thank them for the countless hours they put in to make this year's event such a success. I felt like everything this year went more smoothly than it ever has, and witnessed nothing but a grateful and satisfied audience, musicians excited to be playing at our festival, and great comments about everything from the kids' events to the headliners all weekend long. It's thrilling to look back and see how far the event has come in the few short years, since those first few meetings where everyone started to imagine what a great festival Pickin' in the Pines could be.

I wish to extend a special thanks to the festival directors: Facilities Director - Shelia Guida, Fundraising Director - Michael Satterwhite, Marketing Director - Darcy Falk, Talent Director - Julie Sullivan, Finance Director - Sue Billingsley, Volunteer Director - Fred Wojtkielewicz, and also Contra Dance Coordinator - Kari Usher. Also, thanks to The Pickin' in the Pines Organizing Committee of Mike Falk, Rusty Tweed, and Bill Vernieu for their tireless efforts. Without the help of these folks and all of their team members, this year's festival could never have happened.

Lost & Found at Pickin in the Pines

Someone left a beautiful, handmade ceramic mixing bowl at the Pickin' in the Pines Sunday morning pancake breakfast. Call Roger to claim: 928-556-9123

2009 IBMA Ceremony – Report From Nashville

By Julie Sullivan

*There's thirteen-hundred and fifty-two guitar pickers in Nashville
And they can pick more notes than the number of ants on a Tennessee anthill
There's thirteen-hundred and fifty-two guitar cases in Nashville
And anyone that unpacks his guitar can play twice as better than I will.*

Having just returned from Nashville and the 19th Annual International Bluegrass Music Association's Conference and Awards Ceremony (IBMA), I can testify to the truth of that famous lyric. (And by the way, there are at least thirteen hundred and fifty-two banjo, fiddle, dobro, and upright bass players in Nashville also!) My travel companion, Linda Mack, and I walked around listening in on over a hundred jams and showcases going on in every corner, hallway, and stairwell at the famed Renaissance Hotel. Entire floors hosted by Bluegrass Associations from all over the country, featured mini concerts in their suites, while the cacophony of jamming rattled on in crowded hallways just feet away—one circle singing *John Hardy*, one at the other end churning out *Cherokee Shuffle*. By the time we'd get home each night at the infamous hour of 3:30 a.m., our heads would be filled with fiddle lines and banjo breaks.

If you made it to **Pickin' in the Pines**, you might have been one of the many folks who claimed it was the best year and best lineup yet. The IBMA Awards featured three of five national bands

headlining at the festival. The Gibson Brothers were nominated for Best Song (*Iron & Diamonds*, from the CD with the same name), Claire Lynch was nominated for Best Female Vocalist (now nominated 12 times, although she has only won once, much to my great disappointment), and Steep Canyon Rangers backed up Steve Martin (yes—the actor and comedian), who was nominated for Banjo Player of the year. I understand Mr. Martin was criticized in the blogs for his nomination, I guess because folks thought he was just riding on his star status, and that there are many others more deserving. Interestingly enough, the “outsider” did not win best banjo player, but did win Best Liner Notes, which he joked about on Letterman. The awards were held in the historic Ryman Theater where we could breathe in the “hillbilly dust” Emmylou alluded to in her famous early live recordings performed there with Sam Bush and the Nash Ramblers. Folks were dressed in everything from overalls to black tails.

Young people were showcasing and jamming EVERYWHERE. I'd guess about 40% of the attendees were under thirty (many teenage kids and younger, too), with a big second

showing of folks my age, which I refuse to indulge here. Secondly, if you leaned back into any number of conversations, you'd hear a multitude of languages—thus the *International* prefix.

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Julie's Picks

Here are CDs of some of the folks at IBMA this year that I highly recommend:

- **The Steeldrivers** (*The Steeldrivers Live*)
- **Dan Paisley & Southern Grass** (*The Room Over Mine*)
- **Bill Evans & Megan Lynch** (*Let's Do Something*)
- **Claire Lynch Band** (*Whatcha Gonna Do?*)
- **Del McCoury Band** (*Moneyland*)
- **The Dixie Bee Liners** (*Ripe*)
- **Mountain Heart** (*Road that Never Ends*)
- **Audie Blaylock & Redline** (*Audie Blaylock & Redline*)
- **The Gibson Brothers** (*Ring the Bell*)
- **Jeff & Vida** (*Selma Chalk*)
- **Missy Raines and the New Hip** (*jazz played with some bluegrass instruments, drums, and electric guitar*)

I sat in on a great jam at the California Bluegrass Association's suite with a youngish professor from Norway pickin' the hell out of an old Martin, a bass player from Germany, two mandolin players, one from Hungary and one from France, and lots of Japanese banjo players. (Danger, danger Rill Robinson!) Why is it that foreigners value our music more than we do?

There were many of our heroes at IBMA—the elder statesmen and women of bluegrass (although as you might have figured, not that many women): George Shuffler, Doyle Lawson, Danny Paisley,

Del McCoury, J.D. Crowe, Bobby Osborne, and the Dillards, who were incidentally inducted into the Bluegrass Hall of Fame at the awards ceremony. Remember them from the Andy Griffith Show? Now I have truly dated myself. So much music and not enough time to tell you all about it, or ingest it all, but Linda and I came home both energized and exhausted. If you love bluegrass and love to pick—you really outta check it out next fall. But, remember what John Sebastian penned: those Nashville Cats “*been playin’ since they’s babies*”...so you better practice up before you go!

Traditional & Acoustic Music promotion opportunity:

If you have a new CD, concert or other traditional/acoustic music monthly event to promote, you can submit for consideration to be reviewed or listed in Julie Sullivan's Noise column or the Noise Calendar. Please submit information to The Noise, music@thenoise.us and put "traditional /acoustic music" in the subject line. You may also comment on my articles at the same address.

CD Release – Nolan McKelvey

Nolan McKelvey will release his new CD "A Matter of Time" on November 7th. Nolan's most recent CD is filled with hopeful, poetic and melodic songs about the societal issues of today, interspersed with love songs. McKelvey worked with producer Jeff Lusby on the new release and employed the talents of some of Arizona's finest musicians including Lusby, Tim Hogan, Ethan Rea and Mike Seitz. This is the same group of musicians that garnered McKelvey's last CD, *The Sound of the Crash*, multiple accolades internationally, including 4 best Americana CD's of 2008 nominations from publications in Belgium,

Holland, Italy and the United States. McKelvey has been dubbed "one of the best songwriters in the southwest" and "the equivalent of the mountain west's Bruce Springsteen" among other epitaphs. The cd release show is scheduled for Flagstaff's Green Room on 11/7 from 8-10pm. CD's will be available locally at Rock-It-Man music store and online via cdbaby.com as well as many other digital outlets including Itunes, digstation, amazon.com etc. Please visit <http://www.nolanmckelvey.com> for more information as the time of the show is subject to change.

The Flagstaff Folk Project

Presents Guitarist and Folk Singer *Barkley Coggin & Friends*

November 20, 2009 – 7:30 pm

Barkley has been singing and playing since age 14, his initial interest being rock and roll, though this quickly changed to folk music in the 1960s, and has been his primary interest ever since. Due to a skin condition on his hands he was unable to play much guitar for nearly 20 years until it finally cleared up several years ago. Overjoyed at being able to play again, he dove in with a vengeance still using his original 40 year-old Martin D-28.

Barkley was born and raised in California and moved here from Petaluma, Sonoma County, 2½ years ago. While there, he was a member of The Eastsiders, a folk trio that performed at various nightclubs, coffee houses, and other venues, including the California Kate Wolf Memorial Music Festival. He has performed at the Flagstaff Folk Festival, and is co-organizer, sound engineer for the Flagstaff Folk Project, and has performed there, as well as numerous open mics, in and around town. His music, though broader than the traditional

definition of folk music, is heavily influenced by it. It is characterized by what stirs his heart, sometimes joyful, and sometimes pensive. Artists he draws from include Leonard Cohen, Jeff Buckley, John Denver, Bill Staines, David Mallet, Tom Paxton, Steve Earl, Kate Wolf, and many more. Barkley will be accompanied by guitarist Terry Dumdei, and bass guitarist Ted Johnson. We know you will enjoy this evening of music.

Held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
510 N. Leroux Street, Flagstaff, AZ (Between Elm and Fine Avenues)

Format:

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Open Mic

8:30 – 8:45 p.m. – Refreshments/Coffee Break

8:45 – 9:45 p.m. – Featured Performer

Admission: \$5.00

For further information see:

www.flagfolkproject.org

Membership Update

By Jude McKenzie

We had 16 renewing memberships and 9 new members last month, bringing our total membership to 298. Please take the time to check your mailing label to see if you need to renew your membership; you can use the form below or look for the letter inside. Thanks to those

supporting Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music by keeping their membership up to date. If you want more information about Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music, you can always contact me at 928-556-3161 or e-mail to mckenzie@npgcable.com

Graciela Avila
Derrick Beracy
Bill Bowker
Peter and Beth Bruce
Paul Brier and Maryann Van Dreilen
Robyn Cass
Linda Chambers
Jim Cross

Jack Edwards
Kathy Farretta
Jerry Gamble
James Haueter
Kelley Hays-Gilpin
Peter and Cathy Jolma
Gary Millam
Shirlene Patterson
Jim and Diane Payne

June Reynolds
Cindy Moorehead Setne
Barry Shinabarger
Gary and Becky Simpkins
Walt Taylor
Ave and Nancy Wahl
Steve Walter
L.V. Yates

First Saturday Contra Dance news

By Kari Usher

It is feeling like it's time to make applesauce and eat roasted hatch green chilies in everything. Pickin' in the Pines was great fun. Wendy Graham from Durango did a bang up job with the family dance, the Saturday evening dance and the waltz workshop on Sunday. She had great tips for many things. I hope you had a chance to get out and at

least enjoy some of the fantastic music that was filtering thru the pines.

Looking ahead...toward the Holiday season plan things for the Holidays, at the November dance we will be delighted to see you in your Halloween costume. December is our Holiday dance and Holiday finery is encouraged.

- **November 7th** ClusterFolk from Phoenix will provide music and Kari will call this dance. Halloween costumes encouraged!!
- **December 5th** Our Christmas Ball – Deb Comly will call to Just Desserts. Wear your holiday finery.
- **January 2nd** Laila Lewis from Tucson will call to Scrub Oak to usher in the New Year.
- **February 6th** is WinterFest and will feature local callers and Just Desserts will provide the music.
- **March 6th** Updraft from Flag will provide music for Peg Hesley's calling

Dances are at Ashurst Hall on the NAU campus. Ashurst Hall is in Old Main. The lesson/refresher time is at 7:30pm and we dance until 11pm. Suggested donation of \$5 FFOTM/students and \$8 for the public. No partner needed, live music is provided, bring a smile and wear comfortable

clothes. We would love your input. We have a dance committee meeting every other month, if you would like to get more involved in helping keep this activity strong and growing. Call Kris for more info 526-3020. See you on the dance floor.

Announcement

FFOTM is seeking volunteer members to help with ongoing concert promotion. Job includes learning how to promote concerts, putting up flyers, posting information to various websites, and helping out

nights of shows. In addition we are looking for folks to volunteer to do sound, with their own system if possible suitable for acoustic music. Contact Julie: 928 779 1120 or julie@ffotm.net

Upcoming Events

Sat 7th – Nolan McKelvey

CD Release show at the Green Room in Flagstaff, 8-10pm.

Mon 9th - Moira Smiley and VOCO

They will bring their award-winning blend of American folk, classical, and eastern European sounds to the Northern Arizona University campus at 7:30 pm in Ashurst Hall. More information about the group, voted #1 a cappella band in the U.S., is available online moirasmiley.com/VOCO_main.html Tickets are: Adult - \$17.50, Senior (65 yrs. & over)/NAU faculty & staff - \$12.50, Child (17 yrs. & under) - \$5.00, NAU student with ID - Free

Nov. 13, 14, 15 – Wickenburg Bluegrass Festival

Featuring Mark Phillips & Ill Generation, Palmer Divide Bluegrass, and Honi Deaton & Dream. Competitions for Fiddle, Mandolin, Flat Pick Guitar, and Banjo. at the Everett Bowman Rodeo Grounds, begins Friday at 11 am. \$12 adults, \$10 senior citizens, \$7 children; 3 Day Passes are \$30, \$27 and \$12 at the gate. www.wickenburgchamber.com

Sat 14th – Rafael Aguirre

GCGS Presents Prize Winning Spanish Classical Virtuoso Rafael Aguirre in Concert. 7:00PM. Coconino Center for the

Arts, 2300 N Ft Valley Rd in Flagstaff. \$12 In Advance, \$15 Day of Show. Tickets are available at Arizona Music Pro, Cedar Music, and Custom Sound Instruments. www.CanyonGuitar.org, 928-213.0752.

Sun 15th - Mark O'Connor, solo violin

2:30pm, Sedona United Methodist Church - Sedona Chamber Music Sedona welcomes the return of Grammy winning violinist, composer and musical maverick Mark O'Connor. Reserved/limited seating only. \$40/person. Tickets available at Cedar Music and Arizona Music Pro. In Sedona at Bashas' and in Cottonwood at Planet Video and Music. For more information visit: www.ChamberMusicSedona.org or call 928.204.2415

Sat 21st - Thomas Sheeley

GCGS Presents in Concert Northern Arizona University Professor Thomas Sheeley, Saturday, November 21, 2009 8:00PM. This Concert immediately follows the "It's Elemental" Art Opening in the Coconino Center for the Arts Gallery. Coconino Center for the Arts, 2300 N Ft Valley Rd in Flagstaff. \$15 In Advance, \$18 Day of Show. Tickets are available at Arizona Music Pro, Cedar Music, and Custom Sound Instruments. www.CanyonGuitar.org. 928-213.0752.

Ongoing Events

First Tuesday from 8-11: Nolan McKelvey at The Wine Loft, upstairs at 17 N. San Francisco St. in downtown Flagstaff, 928-773-9463.

Second and fourth Tuesdays from 8-11: Voluntary String Band at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Third Tuesday from 8-11: ZAZU at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

First Wednesday from 8-11: Wednesday Night Vintage Series with Tony Norris, at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Second and Fourth Wednesdays from 8-11: The Mars Hillbillies at The Wine Loft (see contact info above.)

Every Wednesday - 12:00 pm: jam open to anyone at the Old Town Shops, on the corner of Leroux and Birch. Contact Christina Vojta for more information 814-6132.

Every Thursday – 7:00 pm: FFOTM Just Desserts contra dance band rehearsal. Open to anyone who wants to play or listen to contra dance music. Any instrument and playing

ability is welcome. Rehearsal starts at 7:00pm at the home of Deb Comly and Mike Reddig, 1457 W. Meade. For more information call 774-5936.

Every first Saturday 7:30 pm FFOTM Contra Dance at Ashurst Hall on the NAU campus. Come on out for the 7:30 pre-dance lesson. Call Kris for more information 526-3020 or Judy at 214-7017.

Every third Saturday (except May): Cottonwood Contra Dance, 805 Main Street, Old Town Cottonwood. 5:30 potluck, 6:30 lesson, dance from 7:00-10:00. azwedance@gmail.com or 774-5936 or azwedance.googlepages.com

Every Sunday 7:00 - 9:00 pm: Irish Session at Charlie's Pub and Grill, 23 N Leroux. Open to anyone who wants to play or listen to Irish traditional music. For more information contact Kari Barton at 600-1365 or Jay Ham at 699-8463.

Every Wednesday from 7 - 10. Open Mic. Tacos Locos. 2 S. Beaver St. (entrance on Phoenix Ave) in Flagstaff. For more info contact Mark McMahan .