

THE BABA BULLETIN

The Bay Area Bluegrass Association

5820 Misty Meadow, League City, TX 77573



September 2012 25+ Years of Bluegrass Volume 26, Issue 3



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: September already, where does time go? Seems like just yesterday the holidays were here, and now they're just around the corner again.

It's said that time flies when you're having fun and I can't think of a better way to have some fun than getting together with friends at a bluegrass event. So get all your friends together and let's have some fun at this months show.

We've got some great bands lined up. Geoff Union from the Austin area will be releasing his new CD at the show for us (you'll remember Geoff from the guitar contest at the festival). 'Wabash Ramblers' are back, and another new group 'Prairie Fire' will be burning up the stage.

Picnic in the Park will be Oct.6th noon till-??? again this year at Walter Hall Park on Hwy 3 just north of Main St. in League City. We'll have complimentary food, snacks and drinks for our members and guest. Feel free to bring snacks to share with your friends. Come join us for a day of music & jamming in the park. We'll be at the BBQ pavilion again so bring your friends and let's have a great time.

I'd like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers that have helped keep BABA going this past year. Remember it's your membership and generous donations that keep us going. Equipment repair and replacement, facility rent, security, storage, the cost of bands, the list goes on and on. Just like everything else, our costs keep going up. And we depend on you to keep BABA going. We are asking for your help to keep BABA the best family entertainment at the best price to be found anywhere. Let's all keep bluegrassing!

-RICK KIRKLAND, President, BABA

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****Articles are opinions of the writers alone and do not imply agreement on the part of the Board of Directors or the Members.****

September 15, 2012 Ready for the September show in League City, Bluegrass fans? Hickory Hill was not able to make this show, but we were able to schedule a great surprise substitute. Geoff Union and his band from Austin will be here for a CD Release show. Details and sample music from "Cold as Steel" are at www.geoffunion.com Frank Gutch, Jr. from the FAME network says **'It's hard not to love an album that starts off like a cross between Hot Rize and the Tony Rice Unit with music straight out of the best of the best of the modern bluegrass players over the past three or four decades.'**

WAIT, we aren't done yet! Also performing will be not only our old favorites 'Wabash Ramblers' but we'll be hosting a great band that's new to the BABA stage: 'Prairie Fire' and I hear they're as hot as their name implies. See you at the show!

MANDOLIN CONTEST WINNERS!! **First place**, with a \$300 prize, trophy, and paid entry to the national finals at Winfield, goes to our **Texas Champion Kenny Snow** from Spring, Texas.

Congratulations, Kenny, from all of your friends and fans at BABA!

Second place, a trophy, and \$150 was won by **Devin Paynkewicz** from Baytown, Texas. You probably know young Devin, since he's a regular at BABA. Tell him congratulations when you see him at the show.

Third place, a trophy, and \$50 went to the well-played **Holten Doucette** from Waller, Texas. Way to go, Holten!

Cash prizes were **donated by Mike Fuller** of Fuller's Vintage Guitars, and **trophies** were **donated by Ed Fryday** of Space City Inspections. Thanks, y'all!



ANNE'S NOTES May I Give You a Wedgie?

Gordon had been trying to sell his house in League City for some time so that he and his lovely wife could make their final retirement move to Florida, so when their home sold, there were mixed emotions about leaving. After jamming with him for some time on his last BABA Saturday, it was time to say Goodbye. I told him how much I had enjoyed knowing him and picking with him, and as we parted, he said to me, "I'll always remember you as the nice woman who gave me a wedgie."

Now, this needs further explanation. Besides the definition of The Wedgie that you already know (see page 22 at bottom), there is a special little gadget that you who play guitar or mandolin should find a phenomenal life-changer. (Okay, maybe it's not that great, but it is pretty spiffy.)



WEDGIE



TOP VIEW



SIDE VIEW

(continued pg 22)

About BABA

The Bay Area Bluegrass Association (BABA) was organized in 1986 and incorporated in 1987 under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The primary purpose of BABA is to preserve, encourage, and promote Bluegrass and Bluegrass gospel music as an American art form. BABA promotes Bluegrass through being active in community events, fund raisers, festivals, and monthly shows. BABA is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization; see any Director for information.

The monthly show is free to the public and features Bluegrass from the local and national scene. The stage show begins at 7:00 PM, but pickers are welcome to bring their instruments and come earlier to jam. Tasty, inexpensive food is available at the show, and there are raffles, door prizes, and Bluegrass merchandise for sale. This is a 'no alcohol' event, but there's plenty of music and great family fun!

Proceeds from donations, sponsors, memberships, sales, and raffles are used to keep the doors open and the regular shows free to the public. They also maintain and replace sound equipment, storage, security, and incidental expenses of keeping the music playing. We thank you for your attendance, your generosity, and your love of the music.

R. Lynn's Rag



Photo by Diana North

By R. Lynn Holbrook 08-Sep-2012
(rlynnholbrook@gmail.com)

Corrections and Clarifications

Prior to broaching the subject of this month's column, I want to make a correction to my last tome (A Minor Problem) that appeared in the July 2012 issue of the BABA newsletter. In the section entitled "Welcome to Minorville," I introduced the concept of Mister Dominant and technically speaking - I should have called him *Mister Dominant Seventh*.

As a refresher, when playing in a minor key what we think of as the one chord (or root) will be minor, the four chord will be minor and yet... when it comes time to play the five chord we use a major seventh chord (versus a five minor). For example, when playing in the key of Am the progression would go like this:

Am (Step 1) – Dm (Step 4) – **E7 (Step 5)** – Am

Now... on to this month's topic!

How it's Picked – Double Trouble

Many years ago... while struggling with my 5-string banjo addiction... I found myself in a jam session at the Festival of the Bluegrass in my hometown of Lexington, Kentucky. There was a

young man playing a pre-war Gibson with finesse, grace and these Don Reno style harmonies up and down the neck that just stopped me in my tracks. While playing slow tunes he rendered these beautiful two and three note chords with triplet timing in a way unlike I'd heard before. On the drive home that evening, I realized the 5-string banjo could be more than a fully automatic weapon spewing one 5.56 mm jam-busting round after the next into an otherwise civil jam session!

That experience set me on a journey to learn more about how those sounds were created and what was going on behind the scenes. It's a journey that led me into "double trouble" and yet it paid huge dividends on all the stringed instruments I attempt to play. What I'm talking about here is the beautiful world of "double stops" and once you get past the trouble of learning the technique, your playing will take on a new dimension!

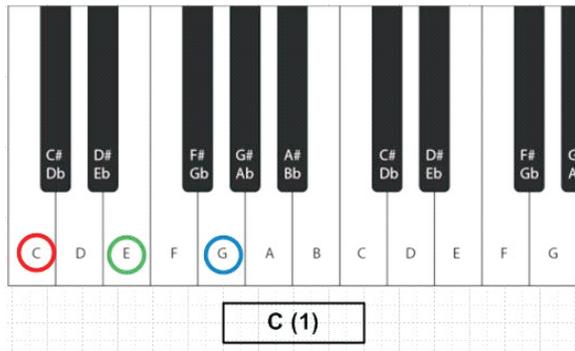
Another Trip to the Keyboard

As I'm originally a keyboard man (starting around age five... fifty some odd years ago) I must invite you to join me in front of the ivories once more. If you don't own a piano or electronic keyboard then stop by your local music store or a friend's house and play the patterns shown below a few times. I want you to hear what a "harmonized scale" sounds like so you'll recognize the sound when we transfer back to a fret board (a guitar for the purposes of this column).

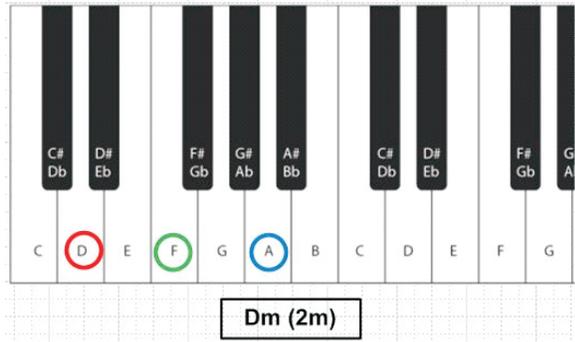
Position yourself in front of the keyboard and play a C major chord thusly: **(Continued next page)**



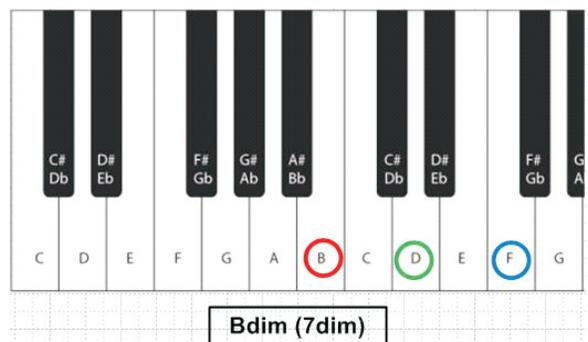
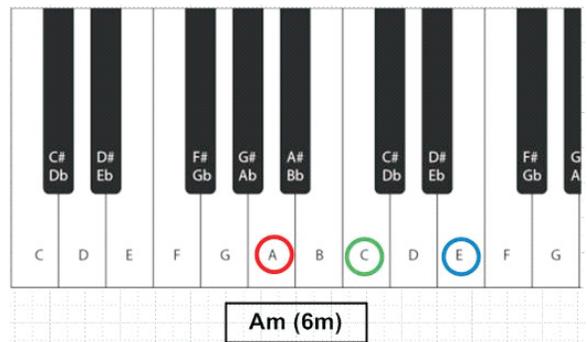
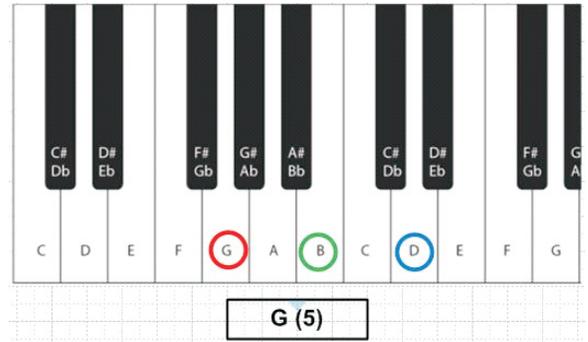
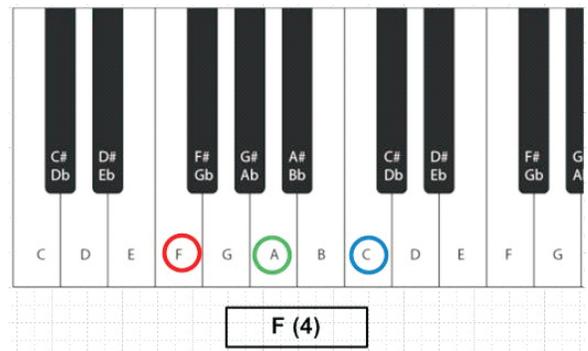
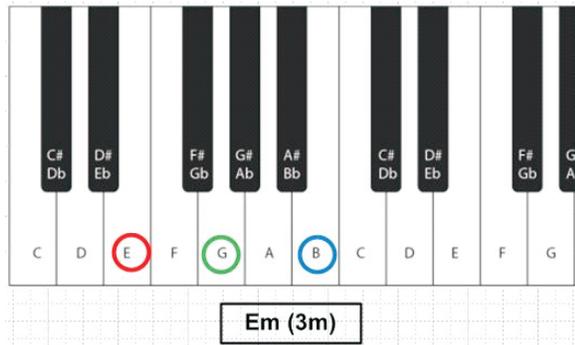
**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE! INCREDIBLE PRIZES!
SEE THE INFORMATION ON PAGE 25!!**



You'll notice I placed a red circle around the root note for the C major scale, a green circle around the interval of a third and a blue circle around the interval of a fifth. After playing the C chord above, shift all of your fingers one step the right and play the next triad – a D minor:



Continue this process all the way up the keyboard until you're back at the C major triad, one octave above where you started.



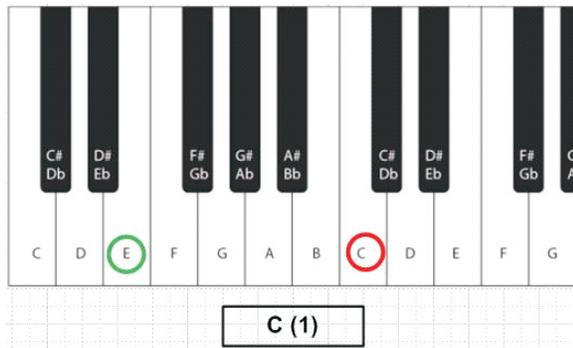
Now... repeat this progression over and over again such that your ear becomes accustomed to the sound of a harmonized scale. You'll observe the notes circled in red form the steps of a C major scale whilst the green and blue notes give

(continued next page)

us the harmonies. Of particular interest to us for this column are the notes circled in green as they will surely deliver us from the trouble of double stops!

At this point, return to the keyboard and play the progression shown above once more except this time... only play the red and green keys as you go up the scale. Doesn't that sound lovely? Congratulations.... You just played your first set of double stops for a C major scale – aren't you proud of yourself – I am!!!

Before moving all of this back to a fret board, I want you to play one last progression using only two notes again. This time, try playing the green note one octave lower as you go up the scale. Thus... you would start with these two notes and shift to the right for each step:



It's the same pattern as before except you're playing the green note one octave lower giving you a different sound – isn't it lovely?

Simply put, a double stop consists of a scale note combined with a harmony note that's either the interval of a major/minor third above the root... Or the interval of a major/minor sixth below the root.

Finally, let's take a minute to write down what we've discovered here at the keyboard. We can document the chord progression above as:

C – Dm – Em – F – G – Am – Bdim – C

What makes this progression of triads unique is that they're all constructed with notes from the C major scale. And if we put them into Nashville number notation we have:

1 – 2m – 3m – 4 – 5 – 6m – 7dim – 1

Using number notation, we can transpose these chords to any key and that's exactly what we're going to do next. Now would be a good time to grab your guitar, put it in standard tuning and get ready to play a harmonized A major scale followed by some double stops!

Back to the Fret Board

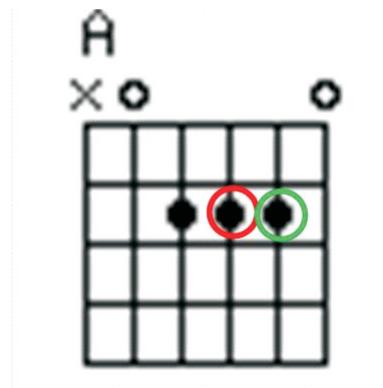
Since this is a publication about bluegrass music, it's time for us to pick up a stringed instrument and see if we can find some double stops. Using your guitar (or a friend's if you don't have one) we'll start with a simple A major bar chord and work our way up the neck. Referring to the number progression above we have:

1 – 2m – 3m – 4 – 5 – 6m – 7dim – 1

And using A as the root (or tonic) the chord progression we'll play is as follows:

A – Bm – C#m – D – E – F#m – G#dim – A

Play the A major chord thusly:



Notice that I've once again circled the root note in red with our new friend – Ms Double Stop –



THANK YOU!!!



DID YOU HAVE FUN AT THE FIRE ON THE STRINGS FESTIVAL? WELL, there's no way we could have had the festival without the generous help of our sponsors. Show your appreciation by utilizing their services and buying their products when the opportunity arises. And whether or not the opportunity arises, please be sure to tell them "THANKS!!" for helping to sponsor bluegrass music and musicians... and plenty of fun for all who attended.

FULLER'S VINTAGE GUITARS: Mike has donated our contest prizes and has supported BABA generously for as long as any of us can remember. Let's give back whenever we can!

116 North Loop, Houston 77008 713-880-2188

NOT EVERYTHING'S VINTAGE...AND THEY AREN'T ALL GUITARS!

TEXAS AIR SERVICES 4418 Illinois St., Dickinson 281-337-7763

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TNT SIGNS & GRAPHICS 2212 Palmer Hwy., Texas City 409-945-7446

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Harrison Electropolishing 13002 Brittmoore Park Dr., Houston
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Insurance Solutions of Texas 281-565-2222 Jay Harris

Memorial Lutheran Church 2021 29th Street North, Texas City
409-945-4050

St. Christopher Episcopal Church 2508 St. Christopher Ave.,
League City 281-332-5553

Creative Termite and Pest Control W. R. Tisdale 281-389-6944

Dickinson Bar-B-Que and Steak House 2111 FM 517 East
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Sandpiper RV Park Seawall @ Ferry Rd., Galveston 409-765-9409

South Shore Harbour Resort & Convention Center
800-442-5005

Southern Style Bluegrass Band 281-488-2244

Texas First Bank <https://www.texasfirstbank.com>

WECO Electrical Contractors Rick Kirkland 281-488-2244

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Mandolins
Banjos
Dobros
Accessories



A BIG BLUEGRASS THANKS!

to our members who help keep the music playing every month, and an extra shout out to those who have joined as Gold Club, Lifetime, Endowment and Foundation levels. We couldn't do this without all of you!

Members' names are in alphabetical order

Gold Club Members

Don & Jan Clark, Mike & Pat Conwell, Ed & Ann Fitchard, J.B. & Nancy Graham, Gerry & Kim Herman, Lynn Holbrook, Rick & Shirley Kirkland, Darryl & Tina O'Bryant, Laney & Shannon Sims

Membership in the Gold Club is payable annually. We thank you for your "extra" support.

BABA Lifetime Members: Brad & Dee Alford, Dave Aldrich, Scott & Diana Armstrong, Doris Arnett, Chris Bagley, Hubert & Shirley Brasseaux, Cara Cooke, Eric & Kim Corgey, Lyman & Annis Cox, Paul & Dana Cutts, Robert & Debi Duke, Bill & Joni Dusenbury, Harry Edwards, Ruth Evans, George Franklin, Jason & Alicia Fricke, Ed & Becky Fryday, Mike Fuller, Paul & Lillie Futch, John & Jean Gardner, Bill & Geri Gatlin, J.B. & Nancy Graham, Jim & Sharon Greenlee, Doris Grigg, Chuck & Mary Pat Gunn, Robert & Elizabeth Hasserd, Tom Harrison, Ron & Anne Hayden, Arvin & Sheryl Holland, Sammy & Oattie Holloway, Jim & Carolyn Johnston, Stan Jones, Paul & Linda Kerr, Pat Lomas, Ken & Wanda MacDonnell, Phil & Cecile Mathers, Paul & Madeline McKneely, Faber & Sandy McMullen, Patrick Milligan, Barbara Monroe, Charles & Ellen Orsburn, Mike Pettit, Bill & Glenna Pierpont, Norman Ponder, Billy Potts, Tony & Nema Redding, Karl Reid, Jack & Carol Ritter, Tom & Sandy Roberts, Jonathan & Kristine Samuell, Billy & Terry Schmidt, Jerry & Monica Scribner, Gordon Spaulding, O.K. & Sharon Stafford, Bob & Marilyn Taylor, James & Laura Taylor, Scott Teven, Don & Charlene Threlkeld, David Towery, Helen Vinson, Viola Wakefield, Larry Wenner, Paul Williams.

Endowment Gift Members:

Phil & Fern Deans, Lisa Maranto

Foundation Member:

Ed Fryday



**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE! GREAT PRIZES!
SEE PAGE 25 FOR DETAILS ON HOW
YOU CAN WIN!**



PICK YOUR NEWS

Pickin' in the Park! Sixth annual Members pick-nic at Walter Hall Park, on Hwy 3 just north of Main Street. October 6 from noon until the last string breaks? BABA will host with food, snacks and cold drinks. Folks are welcome to bring pot luck to share as well. Bring your instruments for jamming, bring a friend or friends. You'll find us at the BBQ pavilion again this year.

If you won't be able to make the Pick-nic in the park and will be up on the north side of town on October 6, there's a Bluegrass Festival at Lake Houston. 9 AM to 6 PM, tickets are \$6.00 and there are \$0.50 coupons on the website www.lakehoustonfestival.com

The link for tickets is www.stubwire.com and the coupon code is BAYBLUEGRASS. No relation to BABA, but we do public service announcements.

The new album "Life Goes On" by Musicians Against Childhood Cancer has received 5 IBMA award nominations. The title track made it up the Billboard Bluegrass Hits chart to number 4, and proceeds from the sale benefit St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. For more information on Musicians Against Childhood Cancer, please visit their website at BluegrassClassic.com

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Individual Membership: \$35.00 annually

You'll become a member of the BABA family and support the free monthly shows & jams. You'll receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly, admission to workshops at the monthly shows, admission to Bluegrass in the Park for BABA members & guest, updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area – as well as the satisfaction of supporting BABA and Bluegrass Music in Texas.

Family Membership: \$50.00 annually

You'll become a member of the BABA family with all the benefits of the individual membership for you and your immediate family. You'll support the free monthly shows & jams, receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly, get admission to workshops at the monthly shows and admission to Bluegrass in the Park for BABA members & guest, get updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area - and the satisfaction of supporting BABA and Bluegrass Music in Texas.

Gold Club Membership Individual: \$100.00 annually

Get all the benefits of the individual membership, a Gold Club Membership Name Badge, & a BABA shirt for giving that extra support to the BABA family. You'll become a member of the BABA family and support the free monthly shows & jams, receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly, get admission to workshops at the monthly shows, admission to Bluegrass in the Park for BABA members & guest, updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area - and the satisfaction of supporting BABA a little extra.

Lifetime Member Individual: \$350.00

Get all the benefits of BABA membership for life! You'll become a member of the BABA family and support the free monthly shows & jams, and receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly. You'll get admission to workshops at the monthly shows, admission to Bluegrass in the Park for BABA members & guest, updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area - and the satisfaction of supporting BABA for life.

Lifetime Member Family: \$500.00

Get all the benefits of BABA membership for life for you and your immediate family! You'll become a member of the BABA family and support the free monthly shows & jams, and receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly. You'll get admission to workshops at the monthly shows, admission to Bluegrass in the Park for BABA members & guest, updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area - and the satisfaction of supporting BABA for life.

Lifetime Gold Club Membership Individual: \$1000.00

Get all the benefits of the individual membership, A Gold Club Membership Name Badge, A BABA shirt, and knowing that you are giving that extra support to the BABA family. You'll become a member of the BABA family and support the free monthly shows & jams. You'll receive the BABA Bulletin Newsletter monthly, admission to workshops at the monthly shows, admission to Bluegrass in the park for BABA members & guest, updates about Bluegrass events in the area, discounts on some bluegrass shows in the area -and the satisfaction of supporting BABA 'above and beyond'.

LAST MONTH'S SHOW...hope you didn't miss it! WE ♥ OUR BANDS AND VOLUNTEERS.

CYPRESS CREEK ← **AUGUST**

with **THE BABA STRING PICKERS**

EMCEE: Ron Hayden

PHOTOS: Travis Posey

KITCHEN: The Kirkland Cooks

SOUND: Roger Eklund, Pat Patterson, Mark Kishbaugh

THE TROUBLE WITH LIFE IS THAT THERE'S NO BACKGROUND MUSIC.

CONTESTS: Lynn Holbrook, Laney Sims, Darryl O'Brien, Judy Sturgeon

BABA TABLE: Shannon Sims, Debi Duke, Sharon Stafford, Becky Fryday

MEMBERSHIP: Anne Hayden



BABA puts on a stage show on the third Saturday of nearly every month.

(Not December)

Want to get your band on stage? Contact Rick Kirkland at 281-488-2244 and get details!

WELCOME!
to our new members

WELCOME BACK!
to our renewing friends, too

BABA BULLETIN:
Judy Sturgeon



PHOTOS from the August show! *Thanks to Travis Posey*



<http://baba123.smugmug.com/Music/2012-Texas-Mandolin-Contest>

<http://baba123.smugmug.com/Music/Monthly-Show>

CYPRESS CREEK

**MEMBERSHIP
DRIVE:PRIZES!
SEE PAGE 25**



**MEMBERSHIP
DRIVE:PRIZES!
SEE PAGE 25**



Devin Paynkewicz



Kenny Snow



Holten Doucette



FIRST PLACE



SECOND PLACE



THIRD PLACE



The heirs to the throne?



They'll NEVER find me here.



Jammin'



BABA String Pickers



Bay Area Bluegrass Association



Bay Area Bluegrass Association



The Ten Commandments of Jam Session Etiquette R. Lynn Holbrook

Thou shalt...

- I. ask prior to joining a jam
- II. play in tune
- II. play in time with the unit
- V. go around the circle giving all a chance to call a tune
- V. play softly unless taking a break
- VI. play very softly while figuring out the chord structure
- II. not play during guitar breaks unless thou art the bass or mandolin (chopping)
- II. sing on pitch... or not at all
- X. know the words to a tune thy calleth
- X. direct the instrument breaks to a tune thy calleth



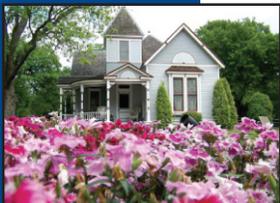
FREE!

BLOOMIN' BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOKOFF

Friday & Saturday October 19-20, 2012
Farmers Branch Historical Park



Rhonda Vincent & The Rage • Blue Highway
Travelin' McCourys w/ Peter Rowan • Gibson Brothers
Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper • Gold Heart
Kenny & Amanda Smith Band • The Toy Hearts
Alan Tompkins & All Star Band • Sgt. Pickers



Two days of great music and beautiful flowers under the Texas sky!
Bring your blankets and lawn chairs.
Free Admission! No Ticket Required

Only 15 minutes from D/FW Airport!

Discounted Festival Room Rates!

Check our website at:

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Festival hours
Friday 5p - 10p
Saturday noon - 10p.

Farmers Branch Historical Park
2540 Farmers Branch Ln
Farmers Branch, Texas 75234



This event is brought to you by the City of Farmers Branch, Texas and the Bluegrass Heritage Foundation.

BloominBluegrass.com
info@BloominBluegrass.com



Swap-n-Shop: a free service to members only - for musical instruments and items related to bluegrass music. Email buy/sale/trade information to Bayareabluegrass2@aol.com

FOR SALE

2005 Keystone Cougar 30 ft. travel trailer. One slide-out; complete kitchen; sleeps 6; queen size bed; like new condition. Asking \$14,000. Bumper pull, can be pulled by 1/2 ton pickup. Call Stan Jones 281-485-4625 and leave message. Perfect for bluegrass festivals.



Stringing You Along.....

SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS!

Don't forget to bring us your receipts from any League City establishment where you shop or eat on the day of the BABA show! If you make your purchase on the way home, bring the receipt to the next show. Put your name and zip code on the back (and the shop name if it's not on the receipt) and drop it into the BABA raffle jar. Your shopping in League City helps promote BABA, and you could win a raffle prize for your effort!

Q: What's God's favorite chord?

A: G-sus (thanks, Doyle Dykes!)

Q: What's the sound that's made when a gold miner gets run over by the cart full of gold ore?

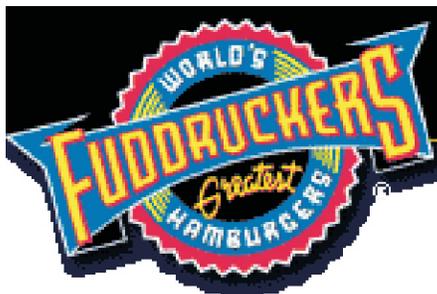
A: A-Flat-Minor (thanks, Chuck Taylor!)

Q: What happens if you sing country music backwards?

A: You get your wife and kids back!

Q: Wife "Do I look fat?"

A: Husband "Do I look stupid?" (thanks, Sandy J.)



Very Punny (Thanks to Sandy Jones)

Velcro. What rip-off!

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer.

The earthquake in Washington was obviously the government's fault.

Be kind to your dentist. He has fillings, too.

When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.

I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.

Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.

Corduroy pillows are making headlines.

Is a book on voyeurism a peeping tome?

Sea captains don't like crew cuts.

A successful diet is the triumph of mind over platter.

A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor.

Without geometry, life is pointless.

When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination.

Reading while sunbathing makes you well-red.

A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

Dijon-vu: the same mustard as before.

What's the definition of a will? (come on, it's a dead giveaway!)

A backwards poet writes inverse.

DID YOU KNOW? The bare minimum to produce one of the BABA monthly jam and stage shows is over \$1,100? Even with a great discount from the city, rent on the Civic Center is \$644/month. Security guard, mandatory, is \$150/show. Storage for the equipment trailer is \$129/month.

The featured band makes a minimum of \$200/show. Regional or national names boost up the price. So does any maintenance or replacement of equipment. The average amount per show, per year, hits right around \$1,600. All BABA labor is volunteer: Emcee, sales, sound, setup, cooks, slow jam leader, production, even membership and newsletter.

So when the Emcee tells you we couldn't keep the doors open without our members and the generous donations of everyone at the jams and show, you can do the math and know how sincere he is.

THANK YOU!

SALMON LAKE PARK
Where the Bluegrass is Best!

Floyd & Fannie
Salmon

P. O. Box 483



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Hours Only

Grapeland, TX 75844




MUSIC LESSONS
Violin, Viola, Piano & Fiddle

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TALENT INDEX

Austin Colony

George Franklin 979-417-1280
george.franklin.b33k@statefarm.com
Lynn Holbrook 281-486-0657
lhollbroo@cisco.com

Before Electricity

Tom Roberts 713-863-7351

Brazos River Pickers

Anna Beavers 281-344-0601
anna@brazosriverpickers.com

Buffalo Nickel Bluegrass Band

Laney Sims 281-242-2383
lanesims@windstream.net

Cypress Creek

Jimmy Pike 713-202-9441
jlpik1@msn.com

Cypress Ramblers

Bill Sincler 713-481-1747
bill77429@comcast.net

Greer Family Band

Lawrence Greer 979-289-9936
lfgreer@juno.com
greerfamilyband.com

Greg English

830-387-9156
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Cyber Shopper Alert!

Do you have a tough time finding just the right gift for your musician? I found this site when I was looking for sterling silver music charms to add to a bracelet. They have a ton of cool music stuff besides the charms, with apparel, mugs, jewelry, cases, instruments, accessories... on and on.

They have something for everyone who ever cared about music. But be careful, this site can be addictive!

Strum Hollow Acoustic Music
<http://StrumHollow.com>

(There's no "www." in it) Judy

List your band in the BABA talent index. At least one band member must be a BABA member. Your annual \$35 membership includes a subscription to the BABA Bulletin and supports the association and the music! Give us a hand; we'll help find you some fans.



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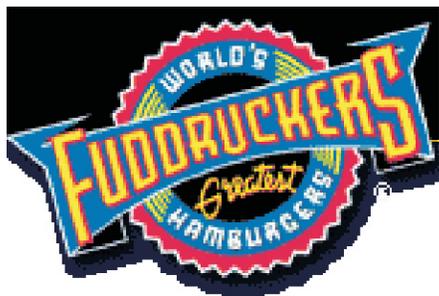


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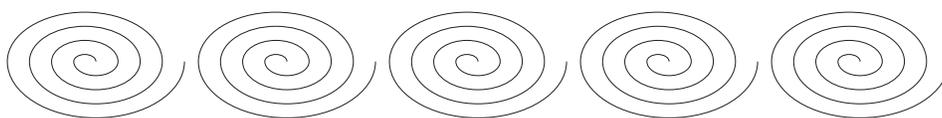
BABA INFO

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TO ALL FUDDRUCKER'S JAMMERS:

If you like the Fudd's jams but haven't been getting your monthly email reminder, shoot us an email request at: bayareabluegrass2@aol.com. If you'd like to be added to the list, just let us know!

Join us at Fuddrucker's, NASA Parkway, on the FIRST TUESDAY of every month for dinner and jamming. Turn in a BABA 'coupon' and we will receive a percentage of your food and drink purchase price as a donation from Fudd's. Great food, great friends, great bluegrass....how good can it get?! See Rick Kirkland for a coupon at the Jam.



BLUEGRASS RADIO WAVES AND INTERNET SITES

KNES - FM 99.1 Sun 2-5 PM Fairfield, Carl Conkling

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KUT - FM 90.5 Sat. 8 AM-2 PM Austin Don Foster/Ed Miller

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KOOP - FM 91.7 Sun. 10-11 AM Austin Keith Davis/Rod Moog

KKUS - FM 104.1 Sat. 9-10 AM Tyler Dave Rousseau

KSHN - FM 99.9 Sat. 8:30-10:30 PM Liberty Roy Bennett

KSYM-FM 90.1 Sun. Noon-2 PM San Antonio Hank Harrison

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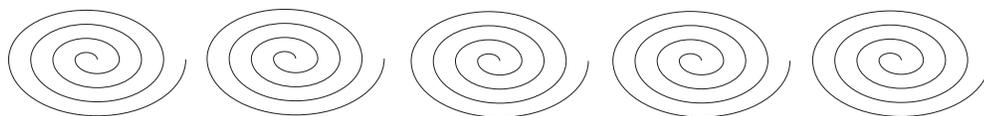
KAMU-FM 90.9 Sat. 7-8PM College Station Dave Higgs (Nashville)

www.bayareabluegrass.org

www.southwestbluegrassclub.org

www.sabinebluegrass.com

www.wiredin.cc



The BABA Bulletin would like feedback and Bluegrass articles from our readers. Tidbits or articles can be: an amusing quote; reviews of festivals or music conventions; behind-the-scenes reports of bands; technical; RV and campground reviews; anything that you feel would be of interest to Bluegrass enthusiasts. Articles can span more than one issue, and full credit will be given. Original, uncopyrighted work only, please and thank you!

Notice: Sabine Bluegrass Website has **closed**. We will miss all the great information, and thanks for the many years of service!

Gerald Block email: sabinebluegrass@gmail.com



More Bluegrass news can be found on the newsletter from our friends the McConnells at Triple Creek RV Music Park <http://www.triplecreekrv.com/pages/newsltr/Newsletter%202012%20August.pdf>



The **GOOD news** is that there is still a fine website that keeps up with current festivals and events. Thanks to Bill Kenney and his "**BLUEGRASSDOG.COM**" website, we can still find great bluegrass music... and each other!

Help him out and support the music at the same time that he helps us. Send flyers - yours or those that you find IF they are not already posted - to editor@bluegrassdog.com or mail to Bluegrass Dog, 301 N. Royal St, DeRidder, LA. Please use email if you can: draft the kids or grandkids if you aren't cyber savvy yourself. It's a lot easier for him to get a .pdf or a .jpg file via email, than it is to get paper via the post office.

Once you send the info, if there are changes to the flyer or cancellations, be sure to keep him updated so that he can do the same for the website. If you know of a promoter who isn't using Bill's site, hook them up!

Be sure and drop him a line to say **THANKS, BILL!** now and then. If you have some spare time and can help keep the website, an offer along those lines just might be welcome, too.

People say there is no difference between COMPLETE & FINISHED.

But there is.

When you marry the right one, you are COMPLETE.

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And when the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are... COMPLETELY FINISHED.

(Thanks, Sandy Jones!)

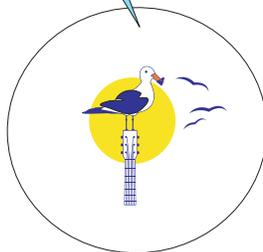
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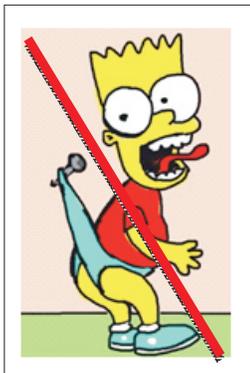
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ANNE'S NOTES (continued from page 2)

It's made of pliable rubbery stuff. You put the wedgie long-ways between your two middle strings, then twist it 90 degrees so that the bottom slots wedge snugly between the strings. Now, you wedge your pick(s) between the upper slots. No weaving your pick between your strings, causing you to be the one out of tune. (We all know that's the primary role of the banjo player.) And they're cheap - \$1.99 each from Amazon, so you can have one for any and all of your instruments. (Go to amazon.com, type in Wedgie Pick Holder.)

So, I hope you enjoy getting your wedgie as much as I enjoy giving them. I'll bring a few extras to the meeting this month if you want to check them out.

Contributed by Anne Hayden

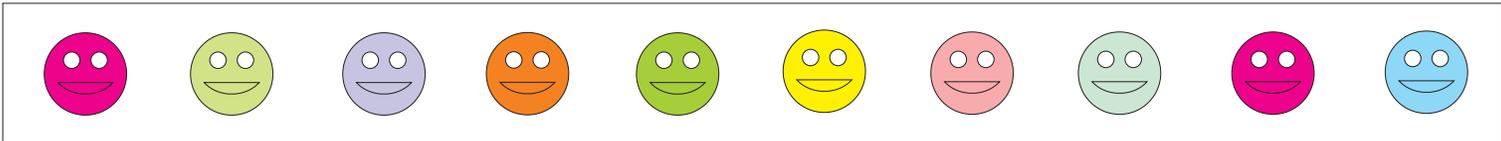


(Not this kind of wedgie!)

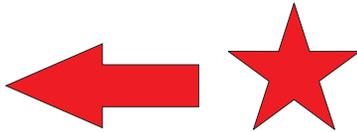


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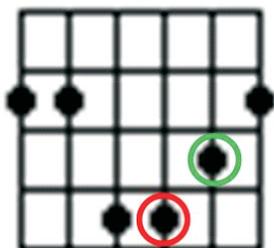
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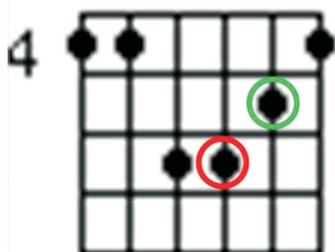
circled in green. For now, just focus on strumming the entire A major chord and then slide up two frets into a B minor as follows:

Bm



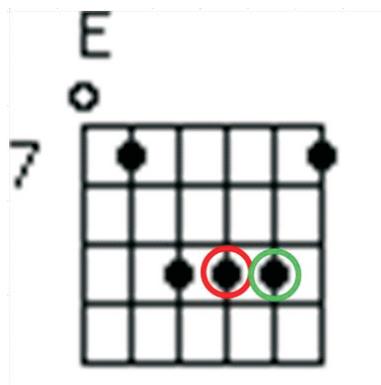
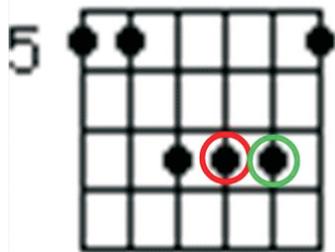
Then slide this up two more frets for the C# Minor:

C#m



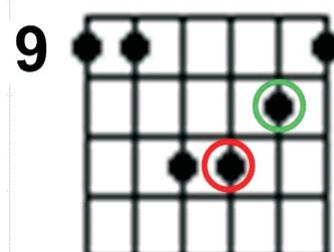
This is followed by a bar chord for D major and E major:

D

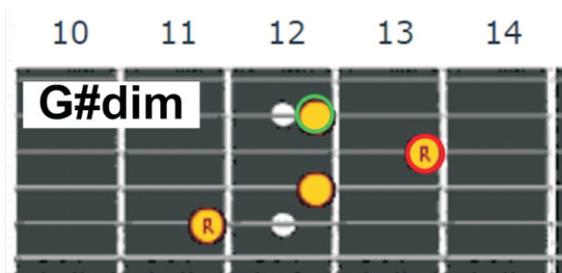


Next... we have the F# minor:

F#m



And last but not least... The G# diminished chord you've always wanted to learn!!!



And this brings us back to the root... or A major bar chord at the 12th fret (which I can't find a picture of so you'll have to use your imagination!). Practice playing this progression over and over again just like the exercise we did on the piano keyboard and you'll notice it sounds the same. Since you've learned this with closed bar chord positions, you can easily shift

(continued on next page)

this knowledge to other keys by starting at a different location on the fret board (e.g. start with a C major bar chord at the 5th fret just for fun).

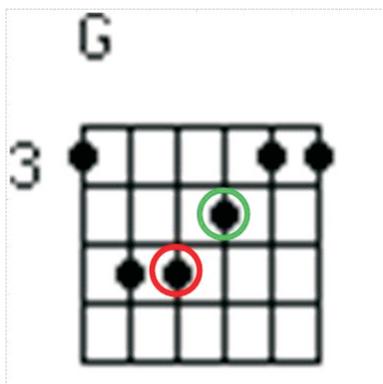
Of course, this is only one possibility on the fret board for playing a harmonized scale. Unlike the piano keyboard – where there is only one way to play a major triad – there are at least four more basic shapes on the guitar that could be used as your major chord starting point. For those of you that have studied the C-A-G-E-D system you'll know what I'm talking about but that's beyond the scope of this month's column.

The exercise I outlined for you on the guitar is based on playing an "A" bar shape as the starting point. You can also play a starting A major chord using a "G" shape, an "E" shape," a "D" shape or a "C" shape. In our style of playing (bluegrass, country and western swing) the "A" shape and "E" shape is by far the most popular.

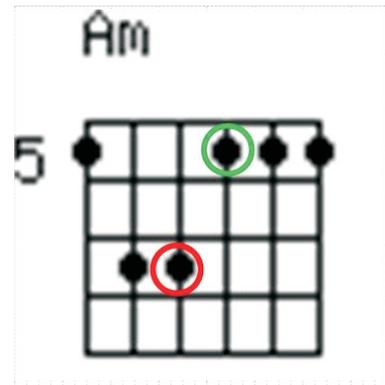
Regardless... Once you form a major chord somewhere along the neck, all you have to do is play our friendly progression:

1 – 2m – 3m – 4 – 5 – 6m – 7dim – 1

And you'll have a harmonized scale in your hands. Just for fun, try starting with an "E" shape at the third fret to form a G chord as follows:



And the 2m will be an A minor thusly:



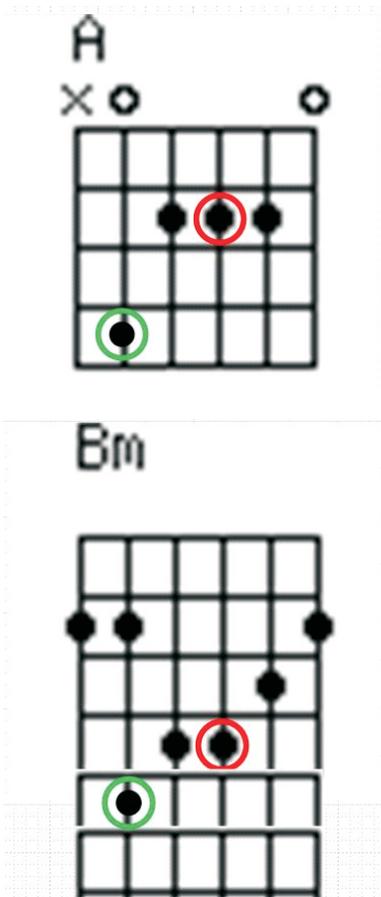
I'll leave the rest of the scale as an exercise for the reader but it's fairly straight forward since the same shapes are used all the way up the neck (except for that pesky 7dim chord!).

Time to play Double Stops

If you're still reading the column at this point I must congratulate you as all of this theory can be somewhat tedious!!! However... your reward is getting to play some double stops on the guitar and having those sweet harmonies in your hands. Take another look at the chords I presented for playing the harmonized A major scale on your guitar. Now.... Instead of playing a full chord as you walk up the scale, focus on playing only the note circled in red (root) and green (interval of a major/minor third, depending). You can either flat pick the adjacent strings at the same time or finger pick them with your thumb and index finger.

Practice going up and down the neck using just those pair of strings until it becomes second nature. Once you're comfortable running the scale, then focus on playing some simple melodies using those "double stops" up and down the fret board. Your picking buddies will be amazed when you slip some of those beautiful harmonies into your next break... Your fans will explode in thunderous applause and of course... the fair and tender ladies will swoon (hopefully in my direction!).

I have one last homework assignment for you before putting the guitar down. Take a minute to find the green note in the chord charts one octave lower on the fifth string and run that progression up the neck. Here will be your first two positions using our original A major harmonized scale:



A Word About Other Instruments

Everything we've explored in this column can easily be applied to your stringed instrument of choice. As a matter of fact, the next time you see me playing an ascending or descending scale on the Dobro... using only two strings with both straight and slanted bar positions... then you'll know I'm using double stops!

To transfer what we learned on the guitar fret board to your instrument, start with a major chord shape (closed positions are good to start

with) and then slide that up two frets and play it's minor form. Then slide that up two more frets for the 3m... and then back to the major shape for the 4 and 5. Then back to the minor shape for the 6m and finally... slide up to the 7 diminished.

Once you know the harmonized scale, then you can easily pick out the root note (red circle) and the harmony note (green circle) because you know it's either a major/minor third up.... or a major/minor sixth down from the root.

In addition to using double stops to harmonize a melody, they are handy for playing fill licks (mandolin players like to tremolo on the two strings forming a double stop) and are a great way to transition from one chord inversion to the next.

Well folks... I'm almost out of time for making the newsletter deadline so I will put a period on things at this point. I hope you've found this article of value and may you avoid double trouble henceforth.

Keep the faith and keep on picking – RL

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best for last.
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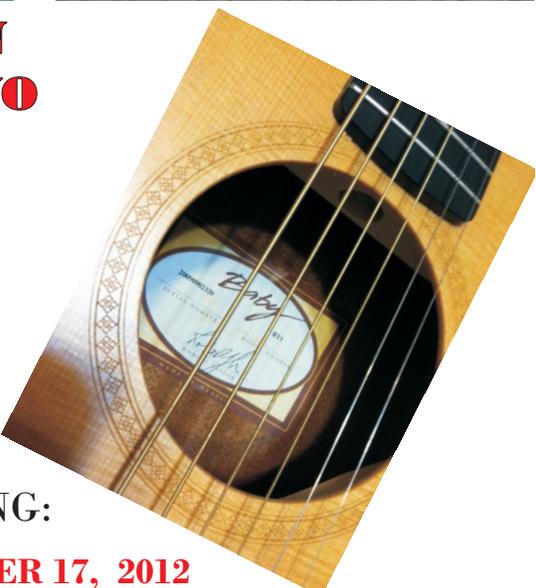
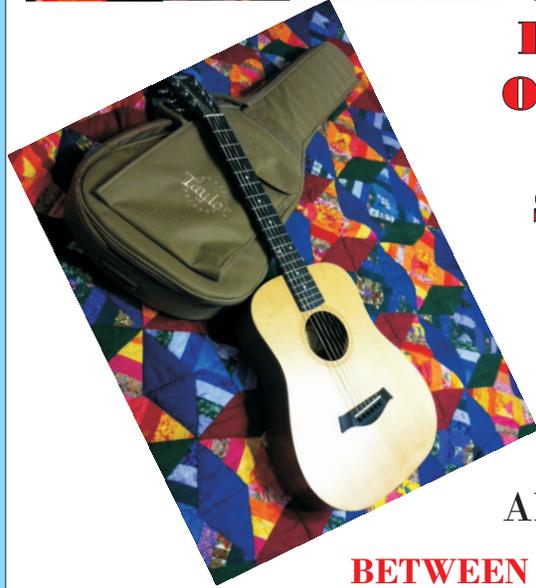
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You don't need to be present to win, but you do have to pick up your prize at the show, or later, in League City.