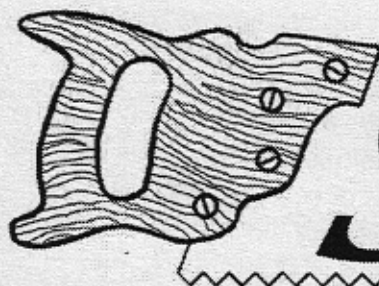


INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL SAW ASSOCIATION



SAW PLAYER NEWS

Vol. 9, No. 2 www.sawplayers.org Email: Info@sawplayers.org (510)523-4649 Summer 2003



By Morgan Cowin

Don't Cut Yourself Off... Come To The Saw Festival!

The annual Saw Player's Picnic & Music Festival is coming up SOON! By the time you read this there will be very little time left to make your arrangements to attend the biggest event of the year in the Musical Saw world! And it's FREE, except for a small parking fee!

The Saw Festival is a great opportunity to meet some of the best saw players from around the world! It's a chance to listen to them, learn from them, play with them and to get to know them personally a fine, friendly and FUN bunch of men & women (and occasionally boys & girls too)!

If you can, arrange your schedule to meet us at 1:00 PM on Saturday, July 19th, 2003 at the Tom Scribner statue - the world's only life-size bronze sculpture of a saw player - created by Marghe McMahon-Lessard and dedicated November 12, 1978. The statue is on a wide sidewalk area called Pacific Mall, in front of Bookshop Santa Cruz at 1520 Pacific Avenue in downtown

Santa Cruz which is on the coast about two hours south of San Francisco, California.

Usually 20 or so saw players - and other musicians and local dignitaries - gather near the statue to play together and promote the Saw Festival the next day. It's an informal gathering, and we usually play together for two or three hours before we break up to enjoy the sights and sounds of this tourist Mecca. There are many good street musicians (called "buskers" in some countries) in Santa Cruz, and there are fine beaches and an established amusement park at The Boardwalk at the beach. The weather is usually pleasant and mild at this time of year, and most people are in a festive mood.

Bring YOUR festive mood out to Roaring Camp in the small town of Felton, which is about 15-20 minutes north of Santa Cruz - where the REAL fun begins! We have been given permission to meet in the outer parking lot at Roaring Camp to have an informal pot-luck dinner and jam session - which generally lasts from about 6-10 PM and



Some of the Saw Players Massed on the Main Stage at the Saw Festival in 2000

Photo Courtesy of David Weiss

has attracted some GREAT musicians, and their families and friends. It's a relaxed event that enables people to eat and socialize and play music without time pressures or expectations of any kind. It's personally my favorite part of the weekend!

By the way, if you plan to stay in a hotel or motel you may have trouble finding a room locally because the area is so popular on Summer weekends. But if you are camping there are more options close by, and if you have a self-contained van or camper or recreational vehicle you are welcome to stay overnight in the outer parking lot at Roaring Camp with us. For contributing to the pot luck, there is a big grocery store, pizza parlor etc. a short distance down the road from the parking lot, and we rent our own Porta-potty (portable toilet) for our convenience.

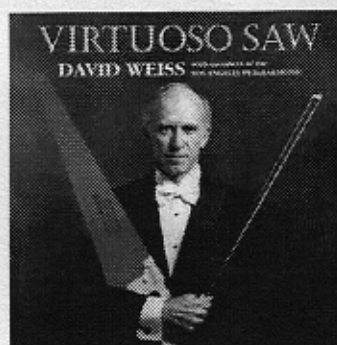
The actual Saw Festival is 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM on Sunday, July 20, and is held inside the grounds of Roaring Camp, which has provided the location for the Festival since 1995. Roaring Camp is sort of a family oriented amusement park featuring rides on narrow-gauge steam trains used for logging, and offers alternatives for family members that are not especially interested in the Saw Festival. You can check out their website at www.RoaringCamp.com.

The Main Stage at The Festival is where most of the action is, with plenty of seating, and food nearby. The following bands are on the performance schedule so far: Charlie Blacklock, Robert Armstrong and the Joy Buzzards (Robert played the saw in "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest), David Weiss (from the L.A. Philharmonic) playing both saw and Klezmer oboe, Luther & Lillian Harris (Musical Saw & Bells), Jamie Laval (current U.S. National Scottish fiddle champion, the Over The Hill Band with Jim Pitts, Bay Strings Band with John Helms, The South Forty Stringband (old time), Cowboy Bill and the Sierra Travelers, Jackie Jones & Pauline Scholten (Variety), Bluegrass Contraption, The Sibling Brothers (Bluegrass/string band). Also on stage will be a short performance by the Saw-Off competition judges, and the First Place Winner of this year's contest, as well as the Chorus of Saws around 3:00 PM - where ALL saw players at the Festival are invited on stage to play a few songs together - an amazing experience!

If you feel the need to play on the Main Stage, there MAY be a short slot or two left open on the

main stage for an "open mike" performance, and you can find jamming going on most of the day under the trees a short distance away from the Main Stage. If all the practicing you've been doing motivates you to enter the Saw-Off Competition, check in before 11:00 AM at the IMSA table and you'll be directed to the Deer Creek Stage about a hundred yards away. Look on the back of the Festival flyer for details about the contest. There is also a workshop at 4:00 PM where you can get instruction and tips from some of the best saw players around, and you can view and purchase saws, videos and CD's, or buy raffle tickets to win some fine items. You can find out more about the Saw Festival at our website: www.SawPlayers.org

As you can tell, I'm enthusiastic about The Saw Festival... there is plenty to see and do, and it's FUN for the whole family! So bring your saw and other instruments, and join us!!! You'll be glad you did!



Now on CD!

David Weiss bends steel in his bare hands, backed by members of the L.A. Philharmonic in this cutting edge CD of pop and classical favorites - "The most

beguiling sounds emanated from David Weiss...heavy-metal maestro enralls with his handsaw artistry...He came he sawed, he conquered." (Los Angeles Times)

Play List:

Misty, Sweet Georgia Brown, Intermezzo from Carmen, Eleanor Rigby, The Swan, Yesterday, Habañera, Scarborough Fair, When I'm 64, Summertime, Gymnopedie, Bach Arioso, The Rainbow Connection

Credit card orders online at www.cdbaby.com/davidweiss or by check- \$14.95, payable to Cut Time Records.

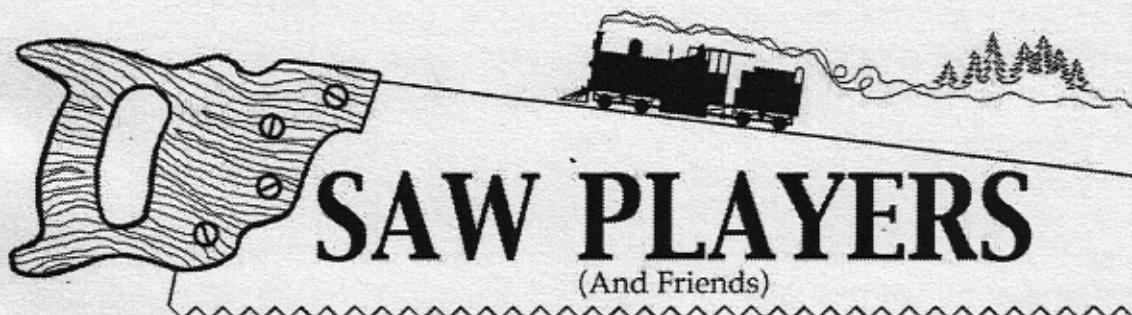
Mail to: Cut Time Records, P.O. Box 64361, Los Angeles, CA 90064

As a benefit to readers of Saw Player News, those who pay by check directly to Cut Time records will receive FREE SHIPPING within the U.S. and Cut Time records will pay any applicable sales tax!

Presented by The



International
Musical Saw
Association



SAW PLAYERS

(And Friends)

PICNIC & MUSIC FESTIVAL

To be held near Santa Cruz, California at

SINCE 1978!

Roaring Camp

Old-Time Fiddlers • Bluegrass • Classical • Country • Folk
Acoustic Instruments • Musical Saws • Harmonicas • Accordians • Singers
Guitars • Banjos • And MORE! • (Bring YOUR Instrument!)

International
Musical Saw
Contest

Sunday, July 20, 2003

10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Musical Saw
Workshop

▶ ALL MUSICIANS INVITED! ◀

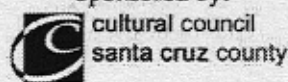
Jamming all day - Open mike throughout the day
Also, pot-luck dinner and jamming Saturday night July 19
at the Roaring Camp outer parking lot (6-10PM)!

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN! IT'S FREE!

Sponsored by:



Sponsored by:



(there is a small parking fee)

For Festival Information:
www.SawPlayers.org
Charlie or Viola Blacklock
(510)523-4649
1821 St. Charles St.
Alameda, CA 94501



For Directions to
Roaring Camp & Big Trees
in Felton (just North of Santa Cruz)
Call: (831)335-4484
www.RoaringCamp.com

Take the Mt. Hermon Exit off Hwy. 17 to Graham Hill Rd., Then Left 1/4 mile to Roaring Camp.

2003 "Saw-Off" Competition Information

The International Musical Saw Association (IMSA) produces the "Saw-Off" contest each year as part of our annual Saw Players Picnic & Music Festival at "Roaring Camp," located in the town of Felton, about 6 miles North of Santa Cruz, California. **The date will be July 20, 2003.**

Each year, Saw Players from around the world come to play and compete for the opportunity to receive a certificate in recognition for their skills, and a chance to play one piece with their saw on the main stage. **Everyone entering the contest must be a current IMSA member.**

Since there is no time left to pre-register, please fill out the form below and bring it to the contest check-in table, or fill one out when you check in for the contest. **There is an entry fee of \$5** (in addition to current membership dues) to help out with our expenses. **Those planning to enter the contest should register by 10:00 AM near the main stage, and be ready to play by 11:00 at the smaller contest stage** (you will be directed to the contest stage area when you register). The time allotted for the contest will depend on the number of contestants.

Each contestant is to play two songs. You may play one piece with accompaniment of any kind, and then you are asked to play "Auld Lang Syne" without accompaniment. "Auld Lang Syne" is known all over the world, but in some places it is called "Friendship Forever."

Also, at about 3:00 PM, ALL saw players attending The Festival are invited to come up on the main stage to play a few pieces together (we call it the "Massing of the Saws")



International Musical Saw Contest Entry Form

NOTE: You MUST be an IMSA Member to enter the contest.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country (if you live outside the USA): _____

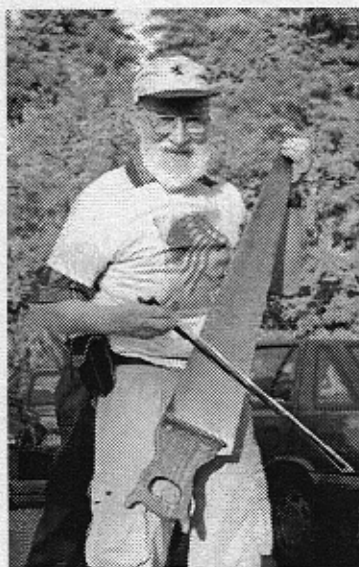
Be prepared to play any one piece with (or without) any kind of accompaniment, and...
play "Auld Lang Syne" (also known as "Friendship Forever") without accompaniment.

Bring this form (or a copy) with a check or money order for \$5 US with you when you check in for the contest.

I.M.S.A. c/o Charlie & Viola Blacklock
1821 St. Charles St.
Alameda, CA 94501-1118 (U.S.A.)

Phone: (510)523-4649
Email: info@sawplayers.org

Featured Saw Player - Allan J. deLay



By Morgan Cowin

Allan deLay is a VERY impressive (and very nice) man that has not only played the musical saw for over seven decades, but he has probably performed on his saw for more people than anyone else in history.

Allan's mother taught piano, and the family listened to songs on the radio

for fun. When he was a young boy he was amused when he and some friends happened to see a carpenter making sounds with a saw. A few years later he picked up a saw and used a small mallet and learned to tap out some melodies. He was intrigued enough to keep practicing until he eventually could begin to play along with songs on the radio.

His first opportunity to perform on the saw was as a Boy Scout in 1931, when he was 16. He was asked to entertain some businessmen and local

dignitaries at a luncheon near Portland, Oregon, when he played "Home On The Range." He received lots of attention with his saw-playing skills, so he put in a lot more time practicing. During "The Great Depression" years of 1932-1933 he often received free dinners or little gifts when he played, but he said that just playing his fancy chrome plated Mussehl & Westphal musical saw was enough of a reward to keep himself happy.

Allan joined the Army Air Corps during World War II (working as a photographer), and he was allowed to keep his saw as a musical instrument with his personal possessions. Just before bedtime the 60 men in his barracks would often say "Hey deLay, get out your saw and play us some tunes!" Local Portland radio station KEX posted a request for "G.I. Talent" for a weekly radio show, so he auditioned. They heard potential, but didn't like the sound of the mallet, and asked him if he could use a violin bow instead. Allan bought a used bow and practiced enough to get on the show, and then was invited back a few weeks later. When he was stationed in Nome, Alaska in 1942, his talents with the saw enabled him to join a G.I. show troupe called "The Arctic Antics," that performed in 173 shows in seven months on every military base in Alaska. In 1944 he had an opportunity to play with and TEACH playing the



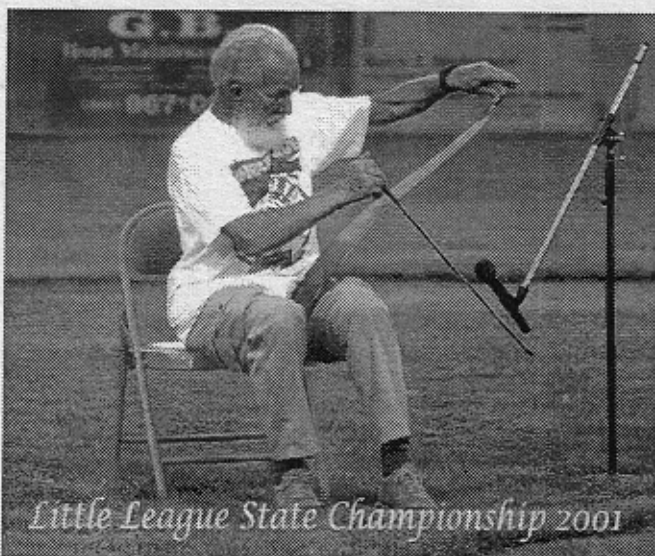
(Above) Alan deLay as he performed with the G.I. show troupe "Arctic Antics"

(Left) The "Arctic Antics" at Adak, Aleutian Islands in 1943

saw to world famous violinist Yehudi Menuhin! (Allan says he picked up the "touch" very quickly.)

It wasn't until after the war that he met another saw player in the Portland area, when he heard of another very good saw player - Nancy Spencer from Ashland, Oregon. Nancy had attended one of the early Saw Festivals (1982) in Santa Cruz, and motivated Allan to attend the 1983 Saw Festival. He writes: "From then on - I was hooked. The fun and friendships, plus the knowledge and techniques learned, was marvelous!" After this month he will have attended twelve Saw Festivals!

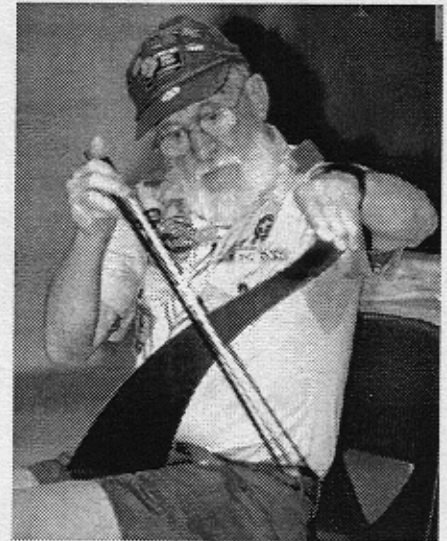
Allan has been invited to play at numerous small and large events, including many with a huge audience and important people. He has played the National Anthem at championship games and sporting events including rodeo, soccer, wrestling, diving - as well as many NBA basketball games with up to 20,000 people in attendance. After the Saw Festival in 2001 he got to play for 60,000 people at the National Boy Scout Jamboree near Richmond, Virginia! He has played around the country and appeared on national television and radio shows. Allan keeps himself very busy, and has played his saw around the world in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Thailand, Kenya, London & Sheffield, Helsinki, Budapest, Tahiti, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City and nine Central American countries. In 1979 he attended the World Scouting Jamboree in Lillehammer, Norway and played to 17,000 people, dedicating "America the Beautiful" to King Carl Gustaf - who was in the front row.



(Above) Alan deLay as he played the National Anthem at the opening of the New Jersey Little League State Championship game on August 6, 2001.

Allan played for 43 years BEFORE beginning a "log book" in 1975, to keep a record of his many performances. As of this writing he has logged 1,609 performances with an approximate total audience of over 250,000 people!!!

You may think that Allan deLay does nothing but play his saw all the time, but he has had a full career working as a professional photographer for the *Oregonian* newspaper, as well as free-lancing. He



has been involved with the Boy Scouts since he was a teenager, and remains their official photographer at major scouting events around the world. And at 89, he is also (believe it or not) a Gold-Medal winning swimming and diving champion in the Masters Division in international competitions!

Despite all his fame, Allan remains a very humble and personable man. He was recently surprised with an award honoring him as a member of the the "Oregon Musicians Hall of Fame" and is an advisor for the IMSA. He remains very active with all of his interests, and will be driving his 1968 Volkswagen down to Santa Cruz for this year's Saw Festival. If you attend, I'm sure you'll enjoy meeting Allan deLay!

A Creative Tribute To Tom Scribner

2 CD set: Includes Tom playing his musical saw on the streets of Santa Cruz, solo and with the "Lost Sound" trio, and a short talk with him in 1978. I read some of his publishings and ideas, and I include some thoughts surrounding Tom and saw playing. 2 CD set \$20 + \$2 postage in the U.S. **Send check or M.O. to: Robin Haas, 343 Soquel Ave., #36, Santa Cruz, CA 95062** For more info: rob@robinhaas.com or call 831-423-3520 www.santacruzcollage.com

Be a Cut Above the Rest! Become an IMSA Officer!

We need your help! The by-laws of the IMSA require that we hold an election of our IMSA Officers every two years. We will announce the candidates in the Fall issue of the Saw Player News and request that members return their ballots within a month of mailing of the newsletter.

A lot of work is involved in running an organization, but when the work load is shared by many volunteers, it is MUCH easier. We REALLY appreciate any support you can give us, but it would be best if you live close enough to the Santa Cruz/San Francisco Bay Area to be able to attend IMSA planning meetings a few times a year, and can be relied upon to do your part for the two-year term. Please consider donating your knowledge, skills & talents to one or more of the following Officer positions:

PRESIDENT - Overall leadership and coordination, main spokesperson to media.

VICE PRESIDENT - Assistant and backup person to President when the President is unavailable, helps maintain member database, other duties of Advisors.

SECRETARY/TREASURER - Takes notes at meetings, takes messages from phone and email and replies, or passes information to appropriate person. Responsible for collecting checks, making deposits, paying bills and reimbursing expenses, balancing checkbook/account, reporting to officers. (An alternate Secretary/Treasurer would be helpful)

ADVISORS - Our team of IMSA Advisors share the many important jobs necessary to help the IMSA function. Depending on their knowledge, skills, interests and time available - Advisors are assigned to and/or help with:

Marketing & Public Relations - writes press releases, contacts media and coordinates PR events. Keeps the Saw Festival on music calendars of other music organizations, Radio and TV stations.

Website Manager - Creates, monitors and updates our website (www.SawPlayers.org) as a major source of information about IMSA worldwide.

Advertising Manager - Solicits advertising in newsletters by saw manufacturers & suppliers, such as: Mussehl & Westphal, Sandvik, Feldman, Lame Sonore, Seagull, Elderly Instruments, Lark In The Morning, Ed Wilcox, Roaring Camp, Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce members and music stores.

Newsletter Editor/Coordinator - Solicits stories from members, coordinates with other Officers to keep the newsletter on schedule.

Newsletter Publisher - Graphic Designer with creative, design & layout skills who can produce the Saw Player News.

If you want to participate, PLEASE mail a note (or email to: info@sawplayers.org) with a brief biography, as well as a "headshot" photo of yourself (to introduce yourself to the members), and we'll publish your photo and information (possibly edited) in the next newsletter.

NOTE: All Officers are volunteers, and must still pay membership dues. The deadline to receive your information is August 16, 2003. We look forward to hearing from you about becoming an Officer of the IMSA!

Welcome to SERENITY MOUNTAIN I

One-stop shopping for musical saws, blades, bows and more!

Featuring revolutionary 'everlasting'
Incredibows (black, white or red-white-blue!)



Satinless steel Le' Blade Classique',



Golden Saws or blades



World's best (sounding and playing) *Carpenter Saw*



Also saw milks, tipgrippers, hammerflutes (play a hammer and saw duett!), instructional videos, CD's and more!

Website details at <http://www.musicblade.com>

For printed catalog write:

Serenity Mountain, 4768 Hwy 9, Mountain View, AR 72560

Or Call: 870-213-5029

ADVERTISE In The Saw Player News!

We are now accepting both Classified and Display advertising for music-related and Musical Saw-related merchandise and services. You can now reach hundreds of saw players at a reasonable cost!

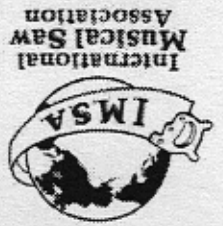
Terms and Prices for Display ads: Display ads should be "camera ready" (ready to print without resizing or editing).

Full Page.....(7.25" wide by 9.5" high) - \$200
Half Page.....(7.5" wide by 4.5" high) - \$100
Quarter Page.....(3.5" wide by 4.5" high) - \$ 50
Business Card.....(3.5" wide by 2" high) \$ 25
Flyer Insertion.....(8.5" wide by 11" high) - \$200

Terms and Prices for Classified ads: Classified ads should be typed or printed to eliminate errors.

There are 36 letters and spaces per line with a two line minimum for \$13/issue. Additional lines are \$3.50 each. Space must be left between words and punctuation marks require a space also. If the word does not fit on the end of the line, please use the next line. Your area code and phone number must be included in your ad information. The Saw Player News reserves the right to refuse any ads. Send payment in U.S. Dollars with your ad payable to IMSA, 1821 St. Charles St., Alameda, CA 94501 U.S.A.

NOTE: If a green dot appears next to your name, your membership has expired. To continue to receive the SAW PLAYER NEWS, you need to send a check and a completed Membership Application. Thanks!



IMSA, c/o
1821 St. Charles St.
Alameda, CA 94501
www.SawPlayers.org

Application for Membership to the International Musical Saw Association

Annual Membership Fees are \$20/Individual, \$25/Family.

Dues entitle Members to 3 issues of the Saw Player News, and eligibility to enter (with \$5 entry fee) the "Saw-Off Competition" at our annual Saw Players Picnic and Music Festival.

Please send your check with completed application to: IMSA, 1821 St. Charles St., Alameda, CA 94501



Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

9-Digit ZIP code: _____ Country: _____

Phone #:(_____) _____ Email: _____

In the future, would you be interested in receiving the Saw Player News by Email (PDF) ? _____

Saw players frequently contact us to look for fellow saw players in their areas, but we don't want to give out your name and contact information without your permission. We do not intend to share your information with anyone but fellow saw players.

Please check the box or boxes that best represents your wishes about your privacy:

- I do not wish to share any of my contact information
- It is all right to give out my name and telephone number only
- It is all right to give out my name and Email address only
- It is all right to give out my name and address only
- It is all right to give out any or all of my information