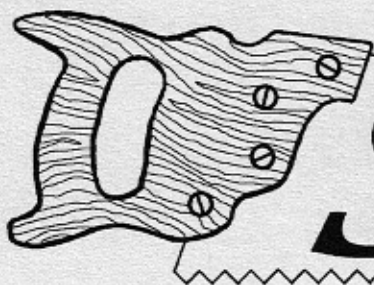


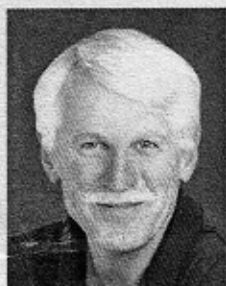
# INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL SAW ASSOCIATION



## SAW PLAYER NEWS

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### 2004 IMSA Musical Saw Festival



By Morgan Cowin

The 2004 International Musical Saw Festival on August 7th and 8th was a huge success! Many things came together this year to make it an especially interesting, fun event. The weather was great. We had TEN saw players come all the way from Japan, and everyone enjoyed the fellowship and our mutual interest in the musical saw, meeting old and new friends, and learning from each other. Over the two days, I estimate about 500 people witnessed the fun and were justifiably impressed with the skills, talents and enthusiasm of the many players in attendance.

The festivities began on Saturday afternoon at the Tom Scribner statue in front of Bookstore Santa Cruz. In case you aren't familiar with Tom Scribner, he was an outspoken local personality who played the musical saw on the streets of Santa Cruz, and is honored by being the subject of the world's only life-size bronze sculpture of a saw player (playing the saw) - created by artist Marghe McMahon-Lessard and dedicated in 1978. In addition to the significant continuing support of the community, the statue is one of the main reasons the festival is held in Santa Cruz.

When I arrived around noon, there was already a flurry of activity. People were setting up chairs borrowed from Bookstore Santa Cruz, the flower shop next to the statue had donated some roses and placed them on Tom's lap. The fun began as saw players and other musicians began to play together. More and more saw players showed up, and we soon enjoyed the attention of passers-by, who nearly blocked the large sidewalk area while being amazed at our presence, and the variety and quality of our musicality.

Saturday evening we met at Roaring Camp (in the mountains about 15 or 20 minutes north of Santa Cruz) for a relaxed pot-luck jam. Starting about 6 PM, everyone shared a variety of food



Saturday afternoon gathering of saw players and other musicians in front of Bookstore Santa Cruz. Note: Tom Scribner statue in middle background.

Photo courtesy of David Weiss

