Welcome – It's time for another CJBA newsletter! If you haven't been paying attention there is a lot happening in the California Jug Band world. The goal of the CJBA is to bring together jug band musicians and fans from around California and the world. To “promote, encourage, foster, and cultivate” jug band music and this newsletter communicates with members what is going on. As a CJBA member this is your newsletter. If you have an idea, article, news, whatever needs to be shared with the jug band community send it to me (Wayne Hagen) at editor@jugfest.org and it will show up in the next newsletter. We'll try to do this at least quarterly. You can also tell me if you like or don't like anything about it. Feedback is good!

Now to the interesting stuff...

News

The 2009 San Francisco Jug Band Festival - August 15 and 16

The way cool poster for this year's SF Festival was designed by Misisippi Mike Wolf - the well-known band leader and poster maker. You can download copies of the poster from www.jugfest.org - please print out copies and plaster them everywhere.
The festival returns to the Band Shell in Golden Gate Park for another rollickin’ good time. Confirmed bands for the bandshell on the 15th include:

- *Eden and John’s East River String Band*
- *The Barking Spiders*
- *The Boweavils*
- *The Goat Family*
- *The Amazing Dr. Zarcon’s Breathing Machine*
- *The Tarantulas Jug Band*
- *Five Cent Coffee*

plus more to be announced.

On August 16th at Koret Auditorium in the San Francisco Library from 1 – 4 PM there will be a multimedia presentation on jug band music plus a live performance by *Amazing Grapes*.

From 8 PM to midnight on the 16th **Club Amnesia** will be the site of a special jug band evening. Amongst other things, the evening will feature a CD release party by **Devine’s Jug Band** (see below) and a "Tribute to Jug Band Divas" including Meredith Axelrod, Miss Emily Ann, and others. Keep an eye on [www.jugfest.org](http://www.jugfest.org) for details.

**The 7th Annual International Jug Band Festival in Sutter Creek, CA - September 26 & 27**
The grand daddy of the California jug band festivals returns for another year. Bands interested in playing, sponsors, volunteers, vendors, etc. please contact Wayne Hagen (gdgdgdsdg). Watch www.jugfest.org for news as the festival plans progress.

**NEW! - The First Annual John Muir Jug Band Festival in Martinez, CA - October 10**

Did you know that the great naturalist John Muir was born in Martinez and that the city has an outstanding amphitheater named after him? Furthermore, the city fathers want to have a jug band festival there! The "host band" for this new festival is the amazing Five Cent Coffee (since they are from Vallejo which is close by). They will be putting together the program with frequent updates posted to www.jugfest.org.

**Limited Edition CJBA Poster By Hatch Show Prints**

Any of you familiar with the role of poster making and American music is probably familiar with Hatch Show prints (see [http://www.countrymusichalloffame.com/site/experience-hatch.aspx](http://www.countrymusichalloffame.com/site/experience-hatch.aspx)). Hatch has made posters for everyone from Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash to Bruce Springsteen. They have also supplied the Ryman Auditorium with event posters for over a century.

Hatch has created a limited-edition beautiful block-print poster for the California Jug Band Association (see below) for fund raising. (Compare this to the poster to the ones they made for Johnny Cash and "Oh Brother, Where Art Thou"!) The price of these posters is $15 (including shipping in the US). These will go on sale at the upcoming CJBA summer events and will surely sell out. If you are interested in obtaining one of these posters, please send e-mail to jugmaster@jugfest.org.
Jug Band Hootenanny at the Cafe International in San Francisco - November 14

In collaboration with the San Francisco Folk Music Club, their monthly hootenanny will feature jug band music. If you've been to one of these events, they are a "real hoot!" Pete Devine is helping to organize this fun evening for all. The Cafe International is on Haight Street (near the corner at Fillmore Street).

Wanted: A Virtual Jug Band Concert

Are there any CJBA members that are experts on Second Life? An Australian friend of the CJBA has offered us the use of a bandshell for a concert!

We just have to figure out how to put it together. This could be a very interesting and exciting event! Incidentally, the avatar you see in this picture is named "Jugmaster Jaxxon" and you'll notice that he is wearing a CJBA t-shirt. Anybody else want one? Do you realize the significance of the avatar's name? If you'd be interested in becoming involved in such a project, please send e-mail to jugmaster@jugfest.org.

Band Profile – Devine's Jug Band

Devine's Jug Band is perhaps the hardest working Jug Band in the Bay Area. Soon we will see a new CD from Pete and the gang. Here are the liner notes written by Mal Sharpe. Mal has been a mainstay on the San Francisco music scene for many years.

"In September of 1989 a perfect storm slammed into the coast of Rockland, Maine. It
lifted a solitary figure up in the air, propelled him into the jet stream where he glided westward across New England, over the Mississippi and through the bumpy air pockets above the Rockies. Just before he was about to drift off the continent, the wind died and he floated down, like a Maple Leaf. He landed, in a sitting position, in San Francisco’s Union Square. Strapped to his chest was a washboard. On his head, his little Petie Hat, under him, his red Petie chair. A few strokes with the thimbles across the washboard’s metallic surface and windows opened on Telegraph Hill...lonely Jug Band Musicians clambered out and joined him across the street from the main entrance to Macy's----- a legend was born. The arrival of Pete Devine’s antic energy preceded the destructive energy of the Loma Prieta Earthquake by 26 days.

Since that day, Pete has been in the epicenter of San Francisco’s “Authentic” jug band scene. Authentic Jug Music, according to Pete, is the music inspired by bands of the 20s and 30s like The Memphis Jug Band and Gus Cannon’s Jug Stompers. He keeps his ears focused on that era but, as this CD demonstrates, he updates it with his own unique voice plus the skills of his band mates. He’s appeared in most of the alleys and avenues and clubs and festivals in Northern California. Was that Pete on the stage of Davies Hall playing “The St. Louis Blues” with The SF Symphony? Yes. Was that Pete in Washington D.C. at a private party for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Conner? Yes. At New York City’s JVC Jazz Festival who was playing that killer Kazoo solo? “Petie!” His jug playing is ferocious. It is not the shallow boom of the amateur, it is somewhere between the snap of Pop’s Foster’s Slap Bass and the full bodied trombone of Kid Ory. He’s is reckless. He’s also a master of the Cheekaphone. He forms the letter “O” with his lips, turns his mouth into an echo chamber and then, with two flapping hands, he slaps both of his cheeks for 32 Bars. The result, as stunned audiences witness, is a melody flowing from the bones of his head.

Then there’s his singing. You might think he is trying to imitate an old time Appalachia accent but he’s not...he’s got that authentic Maine farmer thing in his blood. “Yessah.” I think you can even hear that accent in his jug playing ... that may be the magic ingredient that makes his band feel down homey and real.

As you can imagine, the best Jug band musicians in the Bay Area are drawn to Pete. Joining him on this CD you will discover:

**Meredith Axelrod** - Her vocals deserve special attention. Over the years she has drifted deeper and deeper into the music. Her voice is haunting. Her intonation is pure and her verbal exchanges with Pete on “The Terrible Operation Blues” are right off the Vaudeville circuit.

**Mayumi Uhino** - In a million years you would never guess that this exotic young woman is a fiddle player in jug band. She is classically trained and she’s a Hoosier, from the Great State of Indiana.
**Bill Foss**, co-founded this band two years ago. His banjo and mandolin playing, along with the string playing of Jacob Groopman, make the rhythm section hotter than hot.

Special Guest, guitarist **Tommy Marion**, has appeared with R. Crumb’s Cheap Suit Serenaders. He’s at home with much of the music from the 1900s though the present---Sousa Marches, Ragtime, Swing, Blues and all those Italian folk tunes that still echo through the streets of San Francisco’s North Beach.

If you hear a second Jug on this recording, that is not overdubbing, that is **Morgan Cochneuer**. Although he’s limited to jug on this CD, he can play first chair on any instrument in the band.

**Rob Reich** is rapidly becoming one of the most sought after musicians in San Francisco. He’s playing piano here, but one is hopeful that his blazing accordion and guitar wizardry will show up on future Devine projects.

As the years have flown by, Pete has stayed true to his roots. When asked about his biggest influence, he says, “It has to be my Grandmother, Helen Devine...with a drink in one hand and a cigarette in the other, she would drop discs like Spike Jones and Louis Armstrong and The Memphis Five onto the record player. I was six. She’d watch me freak out... and she’d smile. That musical mayhem resides in my head to this day.”

That’s it for now folks. If there is something you would like to see in these newsletters, if you have something that should be in a newsletter, if you have a band that should be featured. Let us know. This is your newsletter and your California Jug Band Association! If your band has gigs post it on the Web site calendar and let everyone know.