

February 2012  
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# This Month at BASC

The Official eNewsletter of the Bluegrass Association of Southern California

The Bluegrass  
Association of  
Southern  
California

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*Back by popular demand...*

## **Fur Dixon & Steve Werner: Bluegrass Night at Viva**

**Tuesday, February 21st, 8:00 PM**

**Viva Cantina Mexican Restaurant**

**900 Riverside Drive, Burbank CA**

Fur Dixon and Steve Werner are the Traveling American Folksingers you've been saving a spot for in your Ipod. For over eight years now they've been yodeling and harmonizing their own brand of California folk music into the hearts of the American West.

They have headlined at the legendary McCabes Guitar Shop, the Getty Center, the Topanga Banjo Fiddle & Contest, the Tucson Folk Festival, the Peter Strauss Ranch the Ojai Concert Series, the Underwood Farms Folk Festival, and, of course, BASC Bluegrass Night.

When they roll into Viva Cantina, Fur and Steve will welcome old friends and new friends alike into their world of back roads, blue skies tumbleweeds and campfires. And, of course, they always, always welcome you to sing along.

Our friend Susie Glaze writes that "Fur and Steve are REAL treasures of modern Americana music. They write songs that are

true classics of cowboy twang and feel-good road adventure." And Gus Garelick of KRCB Radio in Santa



Steve and Fur

Rosa wrote of their recent CD, "So many great tunes and poetic images, kind of a cross between Whitman and Charles Bukowski and Flaco Jimenez. So totally American: traveling and loss and pain and hope -- great themes and a great album."

Viva Cantina, conveniently located at 900 Riverside Drive in Burbank, features great Mexican and American food and a full bar. Park free across the street at the bowling alley. BASC provides this event as a service to the Bluegrass community. There is never a cover charge.

## Jams in Town

### The Soup Jam

2420 Gundry Ave.  
Signal Hill CA  
90755  
Tuesdays 7:00 PM

### The New Westside Jam

[Industry&Jazz Cafe](#)  
6039 Washington Bl.  
Culver City, CA  
1st Monday 7:30 PM

### The Altadena Jam

[Coffee Gallery](#)  
2029 N. Lake  
Altadena, CA  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 12:30 PM

### Orange County Archery

18792 Brookhurst St.  
Fountain Valley CA  
1st/3rd Thurs, 6 PM

### [Zoey's Cafe](#)

185 E. Santa Clara St.  
Ventura CA 93001  
2nd/4th Tuesdays  
6-10 PM

## The Special Consensus Makes a Hit at the Rancho

-- by Claire Wagner

On January 26th, BASC held its first Bluegrass concert of the year featuring one of our favorite bands, [The Special Consensus](#). The concert took place at the Mission Theatre at the [Rancho Cordillera del Norte](#) in Northridge -- a venue which is rapidly becoming one of our favorites, too.



The Special Consensus

The Rancho is tucked away behind rustic adobe walls and large, old cacti that promise the visitor a step back into another era. The verdant grounds and hacienda-style buildings with tiled roofs provide a welcome contrast to the busy city life just outside the walls. As the name implies, The Mission Theatre is built on the model of a mission chapel, but inside is a modern concert setting that seats one hundred comfortably and boasts fine acoustics.

The Special Consensus has been around for about 36 years, originating in Chicago, but making its way around the USA and to Europe and beyond for many of those years. The group is as tight in concert as they are on their recordings. What a delight to the ear, as well as to watch, as these fellows obviously love to entertain and enjoy each other on stage.

The music is full of drive, traditional, but with a very current "feel" to it. A good mix of medium to blazing tempos kept us actively engaged to what was happening on stage. The harmonies were nice and tight, with mandolinist Rick Faris and bassist David Thomas engaging in high harmony duets in many of the songs. Guitarist Dustin Benson and banjoist Greg Cahill (who founded the band in 1975 and is the only remaining original member) ably handled the lower harmonies with Dustin providing bass vocals on the gospel numbers. They even brought out a beautiful *a cappella* number written by Rick's brother (arch-top guitarist with Kentucky Thunder). Very clean vocal balance from this band.

The humor the band shares with their listeners is quite enjoyable, but not overdone, as they rip right back into more music. Their show didn't fail to please the concert-goers and this band comes highly recommended by this listener!

# BASC Member Bands

Click on the band name to check their website for upcoming gigs.

[The Bladerunners](#)

[Border Radio](#)

[The Brombies](#)

[Elijah Sprouse](#)

[Fur Dixon & Steve Werner](#)

[The Get Down Boys](#)

[Grasslands](#)

[Jerusalem Stone Bluegrass Band](#)

[Lonesome Otis](#)

[The Murphy Family Band](#)

[Murphy's Flaw](#)

[Rocky Neck](#)

[Salty Suites](#)

[Shemanski 5](#)

[Sometimes in Tune](#)

[Stagerobbers](#)

[Western State of Mind](#)

[Wimberley Bluegrass Band](#)

[Windy Ridge Bluegrass Band](#)

# The Bluegrass Jam in the Park

## Sunday, February 26th, 2012

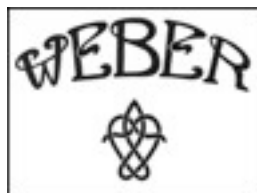
### 1:00 to 5:00 PM

## Encino Park

CTMS Center for Folk Music  
16953 Ventura Blvd. Encino CA 911316



The BASC Bluegrass Jam in the Park meets rain or shine on the fourth Sunday of every month. Pickers of all skills and experience are welcome. Got a question? Call Jeff at 310-390-439





# WE ARE BASC.

The Bluegrass Association of Southern California.

Here's what we do.

***The BASC Bluegrass Jam in the Park:*** On the fourth Sunday of every month, pickers from far and wide gather at the CTMS Center for Folk Music in Encino Park for one of Southern California's premier bluegrass events, the BASC Bluegrass Jam in the Park. This jam is for pickers of all skills and experience.

***Bluegrass Night at Viva Cantina:*** On the third Tuesday of every month, we provide a showcase for Southern California's best bluegrass bands (and an occasional traveling band) at this great Burbank restaurant. Admission is free and Viva Cantina serves up some of the best American and Mexican food around, and at reasonable prices.

***Bluegrass at the Ford:*** Since 1997, we have brought top national bluegrass bands to Los Angeles for this annual summer concert. Past artists have included J.D. Crowe, Laurie Lewis, and IIIrd Tyme Out. This past September, we presented the most exciting band in Bluegrass today, Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper, along with the great local band, Loafer's Glory.

***BASC eNewsletter:*** We keep track of Southern California bluegrass jams, gigs, and festivals with our unique eNewsletter. The eNewsletter goes out each month to all our members and friends, via email, Facebook, and regular mail for members without computer access.

***BASC Web Page:*** Our web page at [www.socalbluegrass.org](http://www.socalbluegrass.org) is a valuable source of information about bluegrass going-ons in Southern California. It also has an interactive calendar where you can list your own Bluegrass events. Check it out.

***BASC Volunteers:*** We help people get involved in the bluegrass scene and meet a lot of nice folks, as well. Bring your talents, energy, and dreams, and help us make it happen.

***BASC Member Bands:*** We list all our member bands with links to their websites each month in our eNewsletter. Member bands also get a chance to show their stuff to an enthusiastic audience at BASC Bluegrass Night.

## Bluegrass Association of Southern California

### One-Year Membership

Individual \$20.00    Family \$25.00    Band \$30.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this coupon and your check to:  
 BASC c/o Ben Weinberg 16799 Schoenborn St.  
 North Hills CA 91343