



The Foggy Mountain Jam brings a bit of the Appalachians to the Santa Cruz Mountains.

MORE GOOD-OLD MOUNTAIN MUSIC

- **Fifth String Music Store.** Bluegrass jam sessions on Thursday nights. 3051 Adeline St., Berkeley; (510) 548-8282.
- **Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse.** Well-known bluegrass performers regularly featured. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley; (510) 548-1761.
- **John Muir Middle School.** Santa Clara Valley Fiddlers' Association jam sessions on the first Sunday afternoon of the month. 1260 Branbam Lane, San Jose; (408) 378-8873.
- **Radio Valencia.** Local bands on Sunday nights. 1199 Valencia St., San Francisco; (415) 826-1199.
- **San Gregorio Store.** Monthly bluegrass jam in the middle of this old-time saloon and general store. Local bands the second weekend of the month. Corner of Stage Rd. and State 84 (1 mile east of State 1), San Gregorio; (650) 726-0565.
- **Willowbrook Ale House.** Local bands on Thursday nights. 3600 Petaluma Blvd. N., Petaluma; (707) 775-4232.

FEBRUARY IN LA HONDA

Bluegrass is growing by the bay

■ It's a lazy Sunday afternoon in La Honda, about 20 miles southwest of Palo Alto, and the redwoods are ringing with the sound of banjos, guitars, and fiddles at the Merry Prankster Cafe, the Bay Area's newest home to bluegrass.

Owners Craig Eddy and Laurie McLean have more than an academic interest in the high-lonesome style of Appalachian music popularized by the late Bill Monroe—they're up on the

cafe's outdoor stage with their band, the Foggy Mountain Jam. "We bought the place so we could have a steady gig," Eddy says with a grin.

Bluegrass is alive and well in these parts, and this is about as formal as it gets. In many places, regulars just meet and jam, and it's great fun to listen to.

For more information about bluegrass events in the Bay Area, write to the Santa Cruz Bluegrass Society, Box

390846, Mountain View, CA 94039, or visit its Web site at www.infopoint.com/orgs/scbs. For a calendar of events, write to KALW's "Bluegrass Signal" radio show at Box 21344, Oakland, CA 94620; bgsignal@worldnet.att.net.

Local bands and jam sessions on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday nights. 8865 La Honda Rd. (State 84), La Honda; (650) 747-0660.

— Mickey Butts