



# You've Got a Friend

Published Quarterly for the Friends of Boyd Music and Pro Sound



## YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT BOYD MUSIC DRUM CLINICS!

Last Fall, as a CYMBAL of our commitment to you, our customer, we presented our first ever DRUM CLINIC. It was well received, and there was STANDING room only. Everyone who came said it was the best they had seen, not just a bunch of ideas THRONE together. Now, if you will STICK with us, we will give you another CYMBAL of our commitment and dedication to you, the drummers of Arkansas. HEAD on down to BOYD'S on the evening of **June 25th**, BOYD MUSIC proudly presents our **SUMMER DRUM CLINIC**.

As you know, when you walk into BOYD'S Drum Department, we do not SNARE at you or try to HI-HAT you. We give you our undivided attention and try to answer all your questions. In fact, we BASS our DRUM CLINICS on your most frequently asked questions. So RIDE on down to BOYD'S and CRASH our party on JUNE 25th. This time we will show you How To Tune Your Drums, How to Choose the Right Cymbals, What Drumheads are best for you and as many other topics you can STAND in one evening of information and entertainment!!

## Virtuoso Guitarist Richard Gilewitz to Appear June 13th at Boyd Music



Richard Gilewitz, nationally acclaimed acoustic guitarist, composer, storyteller, and humorist will hold a guitar concert and workshop at Boyd's on Saturday, June 13th from 2pm to 5pm. He will be performing pieces from his latest album, "Synapse Collapse" as well as demonstrating a variety of guitar techniques.

Richard performs an eclectic mixture of blues, classical, folk, rock and jazz music, blending them in a style all his own. His instructional guitar clinics are designed for all levels of players from beginner to advanced. He explores a variety of elements including right-hand positioning, "attack", fingerpicking patterns as a

language, open tuning, slide, compositional approaches, flexibility exercises, and tips on increasing playing skills.

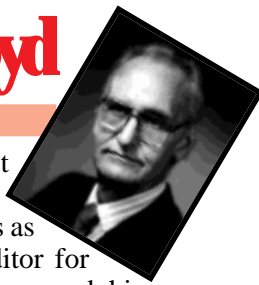
Richard has appeared in concert with the Indigo Girls, the Squirrel Nut Zippers, The Little River Band, and Warren Zevon as well as comedians Louie Anderson and Richard

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## A Little Note from Bob Boyd



This is about Loyalty. Thank you for reading our magazine. We have been mailing this You've Got A Friend magazine (YGAF) to our friends since 1972. Over the years, many of you have told me how much you enjoy and appreciate reading YGAF. Some say you read it from cover to cover.

Above all, thank you for your loyalty. We know there are many places now for you to shop. We here at Boyd Music are especially grateful that you come to see us. We believe loyalty works both ways. Boyd Music began as a "mom and pop" shop, and it still is a "mom and pop" shop. Donnie and I opened our little music studio-store in 1962. Thanks to you and your loyalty, we have a much bigger shop now, but as you know, she and I are still there to greet you and shake your hand and visit with you every day. Whether you have come to shop, or to get our ideas and opinions, or just to chat, you will see our smiling faces when you come in the door. If you ever have a problem with something we sold you, we are there to back up what we sell and to make sure you are satisfied.

Furthermore, besides Donnie and me, you will see the same folks every time you come in. Most of you know and trust Steve and Tracy and Shawn and Eric, and Garry and Dennis, and Gay and Lois and Bobby, and Tim and Les and Tom Ed. Not much "turnover" here. Many of you ask for one of them when you come in or call.

You know multi-talented Bob Lincoln, "The Voice of Boyd Music" who is also one of our long-time guitar and bass teachers, and the designer and manager of our famous Web site, [www.boydmusic.com](http://www.boydmusic.com). Each Boyd team member is multi-talented, so that no matter who you ask, you will be well served.

You usually find Tom Ed Hockersmith in our Service  
Page 2

Department, but he is a gifted writer. He serves as our Managing Editor for this issue. Always read his column. Steve Diederich has been around Boyd's for many years. Steve, a professional drummer and drum expert, also plays guitar and bass and can help you with your computer and MIDI problems.

Tracy McMahan can do anything from helping you to select a new guitar or bass to consulting with you about the sound system for your church. He will design AND install a new system. Garry Moore, another percussionist of note, also plays several instruments and is adept in any department, including Pro-Sound design and installation. He is also a good writer; you have read his lucid and entertaining articles in YGAF. Lois Edwards skillfully

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... We know there are many places now for you to shop. We here at Boyd Music are especially grateful that you come to see us.

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manages our finances, making sure we comply with all regulations and pay our bills on time. Lois keeps track of your account and your payments, and she performs a myriad of other duties, including cheering us up every day with her infectious laugh.

Shawn Daniel, affectionately referred to as "Catfish", (no one seems to know why) in his soft-spoken way, will help you to decide which guitar, bass or keyboard you should choose. No pressure here, just good friendly advice and counsel, with a smile. Shawn also plays guitar very well, is a songwriter, and

*Continued on page 3*



## NEWS FROM THE WEB.. (with apologies to Bob Ketchum)

by Bob Lincoln,  
Boyd Music Web  
Site Manager



With more and more homes and offices acquiring computers that are capable of accessing the Internet and the World Wide Web, it is inevitable that Boyd Music Center venture into the world of Cyberspace as well. Our Online Storefront has been available on the Web since April 1st, 1997, and our Web site has been accessed over 2,000 times since that date. And this number of "HITS," as they're called, is increasing exponentially.

It is important to note that each of these hits is very similar to a customer actually walking through the front door of Boyd's. There are many differences, however, if you chose the online experience. A visit to the Boyd Web Site can be as "interactive" as you want it to be.

You can read about upcoming, special events at Boyd's. You can reply to an online questionnaire that will be forwarded to Bob Boyd within 24 hours. You can subscribe to the "PRINT" edition of our "You've Got a Friend" magazine which will be published twice a year (more on this in a minute). You can view a list of vendor "LINKS" to instantly access the Web sites of Peavey, Fender, Shure, and many other

*Continued on page 4*

*Little Note..., Cont. from page 2*

(surprise) I understand he shoots a mean game of pool.

Eric Ellis manages our Rental Department, which has become very popular for our friends who have temporary need of sound systems. He also plays several instruments, and is a professional entertainer and songwriter with his own band, "Mr. Happy". Many people call for Eric when they walk in the door. Eric can help you with your computer/MIDI problems, and any other musical question you might have.

Tim Quertermous is one of our "oldest" resident BOYD'S staff members. He has been on our team since 1974. Our friends bring their instruments to Tim because they trust him. He has custom-built many electric guitars and basses, notably all the instruments on stage with the popular Little Rock group "The Groan-Ups".

Les Hess somehow systematically keeps all of your electronic equipment in good working order. He is also gifted in many ways, and could serve in any capacity at BOYD'S. Some say Les has only to "lay

hands" on their amplifier for it to be "healed".

Gay Hurley works in the mornings as Receptionist and Coordinator for Boyd Pro Sound and in the afternoons as the friendly phone voice of Boyd Music. She also keeps track of where you live, so you will get your NEXT issue of YGAF, and assists in many other ways.

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... That is the secret strength of Boyd Music; everyone cares about YOU and what you need today... When you come into Boyd's, you are our guest.

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Dennis Thigpen manages our inventory, places all our orders, and oversees a very busy Special Order Department. He will take the time to locate anything you might need, even a specialized guitar pick or a karaoke track tape, or an instruction

book for blues guitar or bagpipes. Dennis has been a radio personality and plays several instruments, as do most of our team members. He also coordinates our advertising.

That is the secret strength of Boyd Music; everyone cares about YOU and what you need today, and everyone "covers a lot of ground" by doing whatever needs to be done.

When you come into Boyd's, you are our guest. We want you to play our instruments. Boyd's is the "Plug and Play Place". There are so many things we do for you every day that our out-of-state competitors can not do.

Yes, loyalty works both ways. We are proud to say we are a "mom-and-pop shop". We are loyal to you, and our customers are loyal to us. But our reputation is only as good as how we treat our customers today. Principles don't change. We put Principles before possessions, personalities or politics. We know we have to earn your business every day. We know that you realize "the cheap price isn't always the best deal". Thank you and "keep comin' back"! ♠

## BOYDMUSICS "How To Get the Lowest Possible Price!"

Good news! Now you can be sure you're getting the lowest possible price on all your musical gear. Just repeat the following affirmations at least ten times a day (more if necessary) and enjoy the savings!!

1. I will never need more than three minutes of instruction on how to use my new purchase!

2. I love reading dense, poorly translated owner's manuals, especially in dim stage lights!

3. I do not want an ongoing relationship with a music professional who is well-versed in what I am trying to accomplish!

4. I have no desire to hang out in a store where everyone is having fun and sharing ideas!

5. I relish the challenge of going head to head with big store commission salespeople, as they practice their amusing bait-and-switch and hard-close sales techniques!

6. I don't want to know about software upgrades, hardware modifications and new sounds. And I don't need to know what every knob does!

7. I don't care about having a nearby and neighborly music store, where I can go and try out new gear and see if I like it, with friendly folks to show me how to use it!

8. I love the suspense of opening my mail order package and discovering if what they sent me



works, is undamaged, and is what I actually ordered!

9. If anything goes wrong with my gear, I will enjoy repackaging it and shipping it across the country, and being without it for weeks and weeks at a time, and I don't want a loaner if my gear goes down!

10. Every day, in every way, I want the lowest possible price, no matter what I have to give up to get it!

...the Web, Cont. from page 2  
manufacturers. You can even check out the electronic version of our in-store bulletin board in order to view and reply to any of our online CLASSY-FIED ads, all from the comfort of your computer chair...

Of special interest to some might be the new "FRIENDS LINKS" page. Here you can link to the sites of some local area businesses that musicians might find of interest such as music-related periodicals, recording studios, bands, and individual artists. If you fall into any of the

...check out the electronic version of our in-store bulletin board in order to view and reply to any of our online CLASSY-FIED ads, all from the comfort of your computer chair...

above categories and would like us to provide a link to your site, please send e-mail to me at the address below.

There are many other things you can do on the Boyd Web Site, too numerous to mention here. But you need to make note of the following...

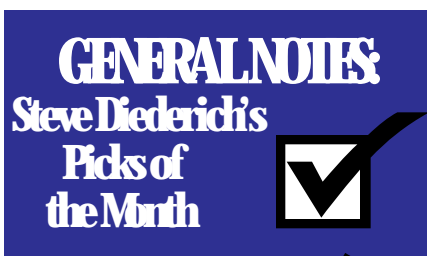
In the past, our "You've Got a Friend" magazine has been published and mailed to you four times each year. At least for a while, there will be only two "PRINT" editions of YGAF, Winter and Summer.

The upside to this is that there will still be four quarterly issues of YGAF available, and in FULL COLOR to boot! But they will only be available from our Web Site in Adobe Acrobat format. Don't be alarmed by this; the Acrobat is a utility you can download from the Internet and install on your computer. The

procedure is simple, painless, and best of all IT'S FREE!

So please visit our Web site at the following address: <http://www.boydmusic.com> and click on the "YGAF ONLINE" button. Step-by-step instructions will show you how to download and install the Acrobat and help you begin downloading and enjoying the current and past issues of our "You've Got a Friend" magazine.

If there are any questions or suggestions, please e-mail me at: [bob\\_lincoln@mail.snider.net](mailto:bob_lincoln@mail.snider.net) or call me at Boyd's at (501) 664-3614. ♠



by Steve Diederich,  
All-Around Expert  
Consultant,  
Boyd Music



Attention keyboard players -- With the "QS" line, Alesis sets a new standard in keyboard design. By focusing on the features that players really want, QS models achieve state-of-the-art performance at incredibly affordable prices.

For example, the QS8 weighted 88-key master synthesizer sells for less than most unweighted 76-key models, yet its piano-realistic action rivals or surpasses anything available. The QS8 provides true 64-voice polyphony and offers hundreds of sounds and multi-timbral mixes. Among its many unique features are an ADAT fiber-optic interface for digital recording and a high-speed serial interface for direct connection to your computer.

The QS8 includes a versatile suite of useful software for both PCs

and MACs, and optional RAM cards allow it to store and play back dozens of sequences. But this brief description only hints at the power



QS-8 weighted 88-key synthesizer.

and value of this multifaceted line. Call us to learn more today.

Speaker stuff -- Peavey's new SP3G trapezoidal speaker cabinet boosts midrange response with its versatile 3-speaker design. You can feed this full-throated box up to 700 watts of program power while its 15-inch "Black Widow" woofer projects thundering bass and its combination of horn and cone-type drivers smoothly sweetens the midrange curve. The SP3G includes a rugged stand adapter and a 3-way passive crossover that can be bypassed for bi-amp operation.

Or if you're in the market for a powered speaker, check out our JBL EON cabinets, a high-quality alternative at a price that won't break your bank. ♠

## YGAF SUMMER 1998

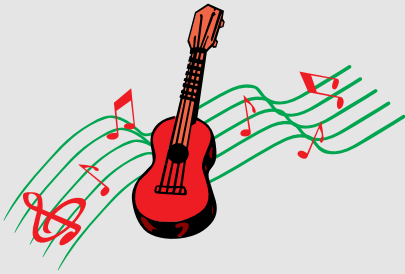
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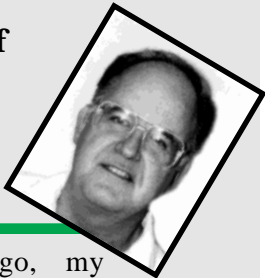
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## MY LEFT THUMB

by Ray Bell,  
Instructor of  
Guitar and  
Mandolin,  
Boyd Music  
Academy



Years ago, my guitar teacher said that my left thumb was not long enough for me to ever play anything really worthwhile on the guitar. Alas, I couldn't flop it over that top string. So I decided to go into classical music.

Because of this one small physical handicap, I'll never be able to play the really fun and interesting places, such as the road houses and places where they check you at the door to see if you have a gun. (And if you don't, they give you one!) Those places have an atmosphere that cannot be found anywhere else. The smell of yesterday's smoke and stale beer hangs heavy in the air, but after being there for an hour or so you don't notice it so much, and besides there are diversions that will take your mind off such minor flaws.

The light, or lack of it, is kind to one's appearance and the general human condition, as everybody looks several years younger than they really are. This also makes it more difficult to see the scales on the "lounge lizards." This quality is so strong, it can turn pork fat into lean beef. I suppose seeing things in a "better light" is relative.

What a nice coming together of social graces and wonderful music! Older patrons should be

warned, however, that some of the dance beats are so strong that it could counteract the function of a pace maker.

Aside from having a short left thumb, life is good. But there are some things I just don't get. If any of you are thinking about learning to play the guitar, and are looking forward to many happy years of fun and fulfillment on a tour bus or playing at your local gin mill, first have your left thumb measured to see if you meet the physical requirements. This could save you a lot of time, trouble and heartache down that long, lonesome road. Good luck! ♠



## GIARNOIES

One of these years, Shawn "Catfish" Daniel will get that Led Zeppelin tone down. In the meantime, he's got some suggestions on how to achieve your favored sound at a bargain price. In the "best buy" category for guitarists, Shawn singles out two tried-and-true favorites and a technological whiz. Shawn

Bandit® 112



claims that the Peavey "Bandit 112" is itself a steal. His choice is not exactly original, as probably more Bandits have been sold

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## BOYD MUSIC ANNOUNCES NEW PRICING STRUCTURE

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We are proud to announce a new pricing structure that will allow us to offer special discounts on much of our new merchandise. We are currently in the process of re-marking merchandise with new price tags listing the manufacturer's suggested retail price, followed by our new "Boyd Discount Price". Be sure to stop in and check out the savings! (Please note: most sale items may now be financed with no money down with approved credit through our new Bank One or Whirlpool Finance accounts!)

*Gilewitz..., Cont. from page 1*  
Lewis. He has also headlined national music festivals across the country.

As a recent recipient of "Best of the Bay" as best solo acoustic artist from *Tampa's Weekly Planet Magazine*, Richard continues to mesmerize his audiences with hypnotic playing and world-class storytelling.

For a "Richard Gilewitz Preview", be sure to tune in to 88.5FM KABF radio on Friday June 12th at 3:30pm and hear an interview with Richard during Blues Hour.

Then attend Richard's concert and workshop on Saturday, June 13th at 2pm for an afternoon of information and engaging entertainment!

Check out Richard's web site at <http://songs.com/gilewitz>. ♠



# ROLAND INTRODUCES THE V-DRUMS

**by Garry Moore,  
Drum Consultant,  
Boyd Music**



Acoustic and electronic drummers alike should take note of the latest- and quite possibly the best so far - entry in the electronic drum set market: the ROLAND V-PRO Drumset.

I have personally never been a fan of electronic drums for the same reasons most other drummers are cool to them. For one thing, they just don't feel like real drums. Playing surfaces, almost without exception, have been made of rubber covering a hard supporting surface. Unless one's playing techniques are adjusted to this surface, there is a good possibility of hand and wrist injury with extended playing times.

Along with this rather hard playing surface comes the problem of pad sensitivity. If drums brain sensitivity is adjusted so that intricate "ghost notes" register, pad crosstalk (one pad firing another) becomes a problem. And despite any sensitivity adjustment, playing with brushes is simply an impossibility. Then there is the problem with the sound of electronic drums. Most people are very impressed with their initial exposure to electronic drum sounds because they are the same type of large in-your-face sounds that one hears on popular recordings. This initial impression begins to wane, however, when the player realizes

that the sound produced by a given preset is the only sound produced by a preset, unlike a real drumset, which can produce hundreds of sound variations depending on how hard it is played, what it is struck with, or where the drumhead or rim is played.

Finally, there is the appearance issue. Part of the appeal of a real drumset is the visual impact it has on both the player and the audience. Let's face it: a ton of drums, cymbals and hardware is nothing short of a visual feast for the eyes. Drums are lovely to look at. Electronic drums are not.



Custom setup featuring the TD-10.

Enter ROLAND with what many agree is the first serious attempt to overcome all of the electronic drum shortcomings.

The "V" part of the V-Drum moniker stands for "virtual" - virtual drums. In other words, Roland's intent is that sitting behind a set of V-Pro Drums will closely mimic the experience of playing a "real" drum kit. Here's how that is accomplished:

First, Roland has developed a "pad" that is, in many respects, a real drum. It has a shell, a tunable head (made by REMO), a rim, and tuning lugs. Because one is actually hitting a real drum, it feels like a real drum. And it looks like a real, although short, drum. And the pads are mounted on a real drum rack.

Sounds? They've got 'em. And how! The neat thing about the drum

sounds here is that the player creates them individually, just like on an "ordinary" drumset, but with even more flexibility. The drum brain here uses Roland's Composite Object Sound Modeling (COSM) technology, which allows the drummer (you) to construct not only a drumset, but the environment in which it is played!!

For example, you may choose a drum with wooden or metal shell, you may choose the shell size, choose the type of heads on the drum, and even the type of muffling on the drum. Once the drum is constructed, the player can "tune" it to his/her personal tastes. This process takes place across the entire drumset, from snare to toms to bass drum to cymbals.

Now the drummer can construct the environment the drum exists in. Place the kit "virtually" in a garage, in a large hall, in a cathedral, even outside! Now choose what type of microphones you want to use to record the drums. Then place the microphones wherever you like: top head, bottom head, overhead, or all the above. Next, one may choose



V-drums TD-10 percussion sound module. effects applied to the drums. Delays, choruses, reverbs...any digital effect currently available.

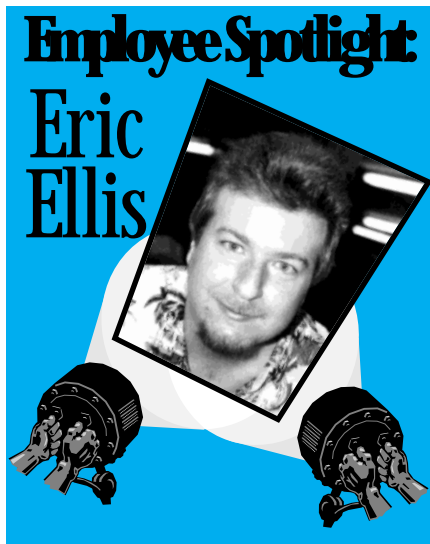
In short, you may construct the V-Pro Drum sound exactly as you would create a regular drum set, but with a difference. The V-Pro Drums may be configured as numerous drumsets that can be "called up" with the touch of a button.

Add this to the onboard sequencer and metronome functions

*Continued on page 7*

..V-Drums, Cont. from page 6 and you have a real powerhouse of a drumkit, that is useful in any type of playing situation. Wow!

BOYD MUSIC CENTER is expecting delivery of our first V-Pro Drumset any day now. We invite you to come by and experience the best electronic drumset available today! ♠



Affectionately known as our "rental overlord," Eric Ellis provides Boyd customers with an invaluable resource. As the manager of large and varied rental department, he is well-equipped to assist people in selecting just the right combination of equipment, whether they need only a single wireless microphone or an entire sound and lighting system.

Eric is quite popular with customers, but his cheery disposition and casual appearance may actually mask the knowledge, talent, and hard work he brings to their aid. An accomplished guitarist and singer with the popular local band, Mr. Happy, Eric boasts extensive field experience with the latest in combo instruments, sound systems, and recording technology. Years of coordinating equipment rentals for bands, DJs, institutions, and studios have exposed Eric to numerous products and to innumerable com-

..Guitar, Cont. from page 5 than any other guitar amp in history -- and with good reason. The rugged, reliable Bandit offers 80 watts of transtube power (100 watts with optional 8ohm extension speaker), two channel operation, reverb, and 3-band EQ, all at a very affordable price. Shawn also notes that Fender's new "California Strat" gives players a chance to get an American-made version of this classic instrument at a cost level where only imports could recently go.

Finally, Shawn highlights the inexpensive Zoom "505" multi-effects pedal. Offering 24 programmable patch locations and 24 popular effect types (up to nine simultaneously usable), the 505 comes equipped with tuner, stereo output, and master level control -- all in a compact and convenient design.

Usually more interested in shipping schedules and perhaps bass guitars, today Dennis Thigpen has an announcement for electric guitarists. Dennis alerts you that Boyd Music has picked up the exciting line of Guild electric guitars and urges you to stop by and try out one of these beautiful, high-quality instruments today. ♠

binations of them. As a result, he can probably claim the broadest knowledge of sound equipment of anyone on staff at Boyd Music. He knows what is needed for various situations, and he knows how to make it all work together.

Just as importantly, Eric is a nice guy. A devoted family man, he prizes the time he spends with his wife, Cynthia, and their two children, Geoffrey, 5, and newcomer Julia, who'll celebrate her first birthday in August. So congratulations Eric; you deserve the spotlight. ♠

## Website Design Services

Would you like to have your own Personal or Commercial Site made available on the



World Wide Web?

Let me Design, Create, and Publish your Site at a fraction of what many other similar services might charge! Complete Scanning, Photographic, and Graphics Enhancement Services!

Call Bob Lincoln at 501-666-7734, nights, or email me at: bob\_lincoln@mail.snider.net You are cordially invited to visit my Site at: <http://www.swiftsite.com/fid> where you will find LINKS to some of the Commercial Websites I've created.

~ W.D. Entertainment ~

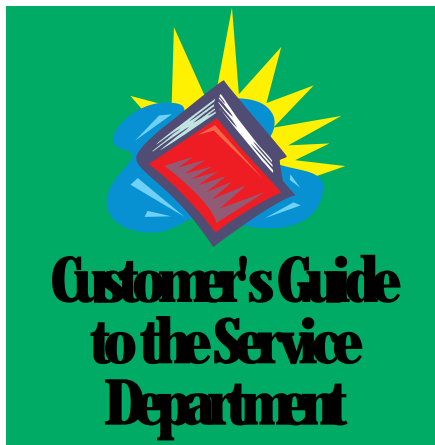


## Shop the Shop

The Service Department at Boyd Music offers much more than repairs. Did you know that we carry a comprehensive selection of pickups for amplifying your guitar, mandolin, violin, upright bass, and more? Among the lines we stock are Seymour Duncan, EMG, Fishman, Dimarzio, Rio Grande, Fender, and Gibson. We also carry a variety of parts and accessories for stringed instruments, including bridges, strap locks, tuning keys, and much more.

Need some speakers or parts for your cabinets? We keep a wide selection of drivers and horns as well as crossovers, grille cloths, corners, handles, feet, casters, and exterior coverings. Need cables and connectors? We maintain the largest selection of pro-audio cables in this region, including patch cables, insert cables, and snakes.

So come by the service department today, and remember to check out our complimentary snack selection. ♠



by **Tom Ed Hockersmith, aka Driver Man**



No one enjoys having equipment repaired; unfortunately, if you use something long enough it will inevitably break down. The service department of Boyd Music has prepared this guide to make this experience as painless and inexpensive as possible. Most of these suggestions will serve you when dealing with us or with other repair facilities. A more comprehensive version of this guide is available in the Fall Edition of YGAF which you can access online at our Web site (<http://www.boydmusic.com>).

### When You Purchase Equipment

1. Keep your receipts. You will need them if you expect to receive warranty service.

### When You Realize Your Equipment May Need Servicing

1. Understand that to be fair we repair items in the order we receive them, so you will almost certainly have to leave your equipment with us for a few days -- even for what may seem minor repairs.

2. If it is especially difficult for you to leave your equipment -- for example, if you live a great distance from us -- call first to set up an appointment.

### When You Bring Your Equipment In For Service

1. Know the problem. We need to know what the equipment is doing that it should not and what is it not doing that it should.

2. Be specific. A vague description of the problem can lead to poor results and added expense.

3. Plan ahead. Be sure to discuss any applicable warranties with us and to present any necessary documentation when you check your equipment in. Keep your claim-check, and be ready to present it to us when asked. Be aware that repair charges are due in full at the time the equipment is retrieved and may only

be paid by cash, check, or credit card.

### Before Coming to Retrieve Your Equipment

Call first, and check to see if your equipment is ready. Unlike most repair shops, we prefer that you call us. Someone will always be available during store hours to take your call. However, please do not take a committee approach. If you are acting on behalf of an organization, designate one person only to communicate with us to avoid confusion.

### When You (or your agent) Call to Check on Your Equipment

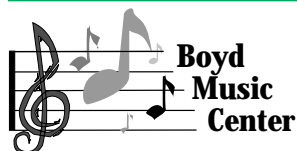
1. Know the type, manufacturer, and model of your equipment. At the very least be able to describe your equipment in a way that distinguishes it from similar equipment.

2. Know both the person or institution's name and the claim-check number under which the equipment was checked in. Although we use claim-checks to verify ownership, it is easier for us to locate the equipment itself by looking for your name.

### When You (or your agent) Pick Up Your Equipment

Have your claim-check and any necessary warranty documentation with you when you come to the service counter. ♠

Look for Boyd's "Harmony in the Kitchen" featured recipe in next issue!



**Boyd Music Center**  
5702 West 12th Street  
Little Rock, AR 72204  
(501) 664-3614  
Fax: (501) 664-3645

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Remember to check out our Web site at <http://www.boydmusic.com>