



A Personal View

Leah Lubin: Skylonda Studio

La Honda Country Fair and Music Festival 2000: Up here in the woods of Skylonda, one of the main issues we face daily is the fact that any time you want to do anything, you must go up and down a mountain. To break that up a little bit, we love to visit the nearest town, La Honda. Seven miles and fifteen minutes, you are there. This small town makes you feel at home.



For the last nine years, on the second weekend in June, the La Honda Country Fair and Music Festival brings out the local community. This year, the new millennium found us Friday night at the computer, my husband printing out a very attractive poster for the fair. We could see from the music schedule that our day would be Saturday.

At this point, I must tell you that the local music scene is amazing. It's no secret that the music started to pull together under the watchful care of Craig Eddy from the Merry Pranksters Cafe. This year's event showed once more how much fun it can be when you bring together groups like the Mark Reid Band, the Gary Gates Band, and more.

The first band, *This Way Up*, started with an amazing set. On stage, playing and singing, was Mark Binion (the Mark of the *Mark Reid Band*). When I asked the stage manager, Linda, "What's up with Mark on stage?" she said, "Mark is one of the busiest musicians in the area."

The fairs have always been held as a benefit for the La Honda Elementary School Art and Music Department. Catching up with Paula Dennis, the fair's organizer, during a music break, I learned that this year's event will benefit the instrument instruction program. As I chatted with Paula, she reminisced about the time *CoastViews* was operated out of a small office in La Honda. She told me how Charlie, the owner of the La Honda Gardens, where the fair is held, put in a brand new stage for this year's event.

Walking around the colorful booths, I met Karen Ferguson, the owner of One of A Kind Tye Dye Clothing. She told me that this is her fifth fair, and loves the low pressure and family atmosphere.

All day, the music was great, with special mention for the *Jenny Kerr Band*, the *Waybacks*, and *Dave Elias & The Great Unknown*, making you glad that summer was here. Although this fair is slowly getting bigger, if you come by next year, they'll fit you in easily.