

# THE Frank Wakefield SILVER-BELLE SESSION

- 01 - I'll Never Make You Blue
- 02 - The Convict and the Child
- 03 - Morning Train
- 04 - The Prisoner's Song
- 05 - Alone and Forgotten
- 06 - Well Enough Alone

Frank Wakefield - vocals and mandolin  
Chubby Wise - fiddle  
David Grisman - guitar  
Winnie Winston - banjo  
Fred Weisz - bass



*Sing Out! magazine ad - July, 1965*

Produced by Peter K. Siegel and David Grisman

Recorded February, 1965 at Mastertone Studios, NYC

Mastered by Neville Pearsall at Dawg Studios

Executive producer - Craig Miller

Layout Design - Dave "FM" Moretti

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HI-DEF MASTER

# THE Frank Wakefield SILVER-BELLE SESSION

featuring Chubby Wise, David Grisman, Winnie Winston and Fred Weisz



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## ABOUT THIS RECORDING —

In 1965, David Grisman and I formed a bluegrass record company called Silver-Belle. We got the name from a Bacon and Day Silver Bell banjo I was playing at the time. We changed the spelling in a questionable attempt to make it sound elegant. We were too young to establish a business in New York so my dad graciously signed the paperwork for us.

After releasing a 45 rpm single by David's band The New York Ramblers, we turned our attention to the great mandolin player Frank Wakefield. We had already recorded Frank with his then partner Red Allen for Folkways Records. Now Frank was on his own, soon to join the Greenbriar Boys to replace Ralph Rinzler, who had left the group to take a job at the Smithsonian.

We planned a recording session to be held at Mastertone Studio on West 42nd Street. David would play guitar. I would produce. To our great good fortune, Chubby Wise, whose heartfelt fiddling had helped define the bluegrass sound, agreed to join us. We asked our pals Winnie Winston and Fred Weisz, both exceptional musicians, to play banjo and bass respectively.

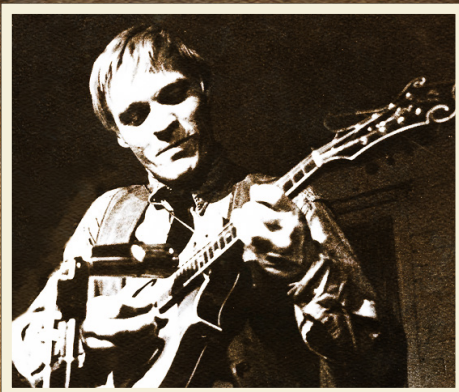
After a rehearsal in my bedroom, we all headed to Mastertone for one session at which we recorded six tracks. As good as the five musicians were individually, they proved to be even better together. Frank sang and played some of his best music ever, David's driving guitar propelled the music forward, Winnie was brilliant, Fred was a rock, and Chubby was... well... Chubby Wise.

David and I proudly released two songs on Silver-Belle, cementing the session's legendary status by achieving minimal sales. Now, 60 years later, David is making the entire session available for the first time on Acoustic Disc. It's some of the best music I've ever been involved in.

— Peter K. Siegel, New York City, 2025

This recording session with Frank was (and still is) one of the high points in my musical career. Playing with heroes and friends, with my buddy (and record biz partner) Peter K. Siegel in the control room — it didn't get much better than that for 19-year old me!

— David Grisman



Frank Wakefield



Winnie Winston & David Grisman



Chubby Wise



Fred Weisz

