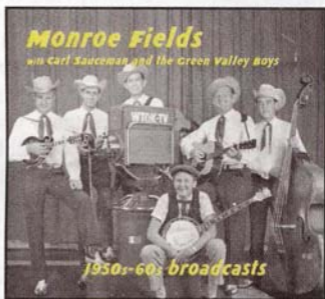


**MONROE FIELDS WITH CARL SAUCEMAN
AND THE GREEN VALLEY BOYS
1950s-'60s BROADCASTS**

Patuxent Music
CD-259



As Dick Spottswood writes in his fine liner notes, "One of the secret strengths of bluegrass is the list of people with talent, imagination, and musicianship who prefer to play supporting roles instead of being headliners...Monroe Fields is one of this select group."

The name and catalog of Monroe Fields might be a mystery for many today, which is why this collection of broadcasts from the '50s and '60s, featuring Monroe Fields singing lead with Carl Sauceman and the Green Valley Boys, is such a valuable and important release. Fields, a mandolin player and tenor singer, served as a sideman for most of the well-known bands during that era: Jimmy Martin, Flatt & Scruggs, Bill Monroe (on bass—and I'd love to know how Bill made him change his name!), and Charlie Louvin, among others.

Thanks to these fine recordings, his voice and playing are now available to us all. And if that weren't enough, we also have a great band at the peak of their playing—a band that included Jim Brock on fiddle, Carl and J.P. Saucemen, and Fred Richardson or Buddy Rose on banjo. A wonderful recording for fans of the era when the line between country and bluegrass was less well-defined and when both were closer to the voice of a very specific time and place. Highly recommended. (Patuxent Music, P.O. Box 572, Rockville, MD 20848, www.pxrec.com.)CVS