

“Bluegrass Clippings”

January—February 2004

“BI-Monthly publication of the “YELLOWSTONE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION”

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Wingerter

YBA BOARD MEETING

Monday
February 16th at
7:00pm Pizza
Hut on 16th &
Grand

2004
MEMBERSHIP
DUES See Page
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The ANNUAL
MOLT MEAT-
BALL DINNER
& JAM
See Page 3

If your group is going to be playing anywhere, please let Rick Wingerter know and he’ll get it in the newsletter. He’s looking for any kind of news related to Bluegrass and Bluegrass Artists.

Yellowstone Bluegrass Association, Inc.
Year-End Financial Report
December 31, 2003

Confidential on the Website

2004 Memberships Due

Yellowstone Bluegrass Association Memberships are due each year on the 1st of January, or as near to that date as possible. Memberships are \$15.00 per individual or \$25.00 for a family. If you have not already done so, please fill out the membership form and give it or mail it to Terry Indreland. If you have any questions please call Terry

Cosmetic Care Of Acoustic Guitars

There are so many different finishes on guitars that you almost have to be a chemist to understand them all so I'll try to be general.

It's best to use a clean lint-free cotton cloth and wipe your guitar off when done playing. If there is an area which will not come clean, moisten the cloth a little. Never use paper towels.

Polish should be used if the above doesn't work. I recommend Martin Guitar Polish. If you have an older guitar with a varnish finish, try to find a polish with lemon oil in it. If your guitar has cracks in the finish you may want to get professional advice. The polish could get in the cracks and make a mess of the wood. If your fingerboard is not finished, (most aren't), apply a small amount of lemon oil on a rag and rub it in to prevent cracking.

Baby Your Guitar With The Right Polishing Cloth.

Don't buy special polishing cloths for your nice acoustic guitar. The best (and cheapest) polishing cloth is BABY DIAPERS. Needless to say, these are absorbent and soft—perfect for wiping down your “baby.” One pack of cloth diapers should last you for years. You can get them at any discount store for a few dollars.

White Dove, The Bluegrass Gospel Collection

Well, Rounder Records has done it again! White Dove is a marvelous collection of 21 bluegrass gospel selections that fill the entire realm of the genre! (Rounder 11661-0523-2)

In one small package is a huge collection of the heart of bluegrass instrumentation and vocals. Here too, is a collection of the finest that bluegrass gospel has to offer. With artists like Alison Krauss, The Cox Family, Jim & Jesse, Tony Rice and others, you can be assured that the harmony of both voices and instruments will be awesome. In addition, this album provides the broad scope and balance of traditional, contemporary, and progressive bluegrass.

Check out your music stores or the Internet soon. This album may easily become a classic gospel collection!

Rounder Artists Win Grammy Nominations

Cambridge, Ma. Rounder Records is pleased to announce that its artists have received 10 Grammy nominations for the 46th Annual Grammy Awards. The awards ceremony will take place on Feb. 8th at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, and will be broadcast live on the CBS Television Network at 8pm EST. Most notably, Alison Krauss + Union Station as well as Rhonda Vincent were nominated in the Best Bluegrass Album Category. Eddy The Chief Clearwater picked up his first Grammy nomination for Best Traditional Blues Album, while Jimmy Sturr picked up his 18th consecutive nomination for Best Polka Album.

FUN!!! FUN!!! FUN!!!

**Open Jam at the Laurel Pizza Hut
Last Tuesday of every Month 7PM - ?**

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOSPEL

12 Bluegrass Gospel songs written and produced by Rick Wingerter

Featuring artists from all over the U.S. and Canada
Including; The Marksmen, The Staffords, Chris Wetch
Russ and Becky Jeffers, DJ Manason and Nick Alberty

CD's \$10.00 each plus \$2.00 S&H

Mail check or money order to:

Rick Wingerter 416 Hillview Lane Billings, MT 59101

www.wingnut.net/loralea/htm

MOLT MEATBALL DINNER AND JAM

Sunday February 29th (Leap Year Day) 12 noon - ?
Molt Community Hall

Menu: Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables, Bread,
Salad Dinner Roll, Dessert, Coffee/Tea and Fun!!!

Dinner – Auction – Jam

Bring your appetite, your instrument and if you find something laying
Around the house that's just collecting dust by non-use (Banjo's
excluded),

You might consider donating it to the Yellowstone Bluegrass Association
For the auction.

Come and join the fun and maybe bring a friend or two.
Members \$7.00 ** Non-members \$9.00

RSVP to Terry Indreland

Hansen Music **1819 Grand Avenue**

Stop in and see the field of guitars waiting
to be harvested by bluegrass musicians.
Also in stock, things to chase away winter
blues—(and most sane people)—banjos,
Mandolins, harmonicas, and even cool
picks!

Check out the new web site for the store:
<http://www.hansenmusic.net/>

Prairie Winds Café

**A little bluegrass with your eggs
Bacon and hot coffee**

**Every Saturday morning
From 9am 'til Noon**

Artist Spotlight!

Archie Bott; A Guitar for Christmas

Archie has enjoyed pickin' guitar at the YBA Friday night jams for about five years now. He says he's not the greatest picker and his singing's even worse, but he still enjoys it.

His mother was a piano teacher. She was able to teach about every kid in town with any interest in playing piano, except Archie. He still runs into folks that she gave lessons to, years ago for about ten cents an hour. She tried her best to teach Archie piano and how to read music but with no success. She finally threw up her hands in desperation and asked him "If you're not going to play piano, what would you like to play?" He had heard an old guy pickin' guitar and singing country songs at a local thirst parlor. That appealed to him even though the guy had hitch-hiked to town carrying his guitar in a gunny sack on his back and left as broke as when he had come. Late that same summer Archie told his mom he'd like to play guitar.

That year at Christmas time there was a brand new Silvertone guitar under the tree with Archie's name on it. It came with a book of instructions and chord charts in several keys. He says unlike the piano, he had no problem consistently practicing on the guitar. He also picked up a few licks from some of the local pickers. They all played by ear rather than off sheet music.

In his mid teens, Archie became friends with Roger Jacobsen. Roger could memorize a song after hearing it three or four times on the nickelodeon. After teaching Roger what he knew about playing guitar, they were off to playing in church, at talent shows and at dances. Roger could sing all the Hank Williams and Jimmy Rogers songs including the yodel. His most requested song was "Love Sick Blues."

Archie then joined the Navy and was stationed in the Aleutian Islands where he kept his sanity by playing guitar and doing leather work. Later he was transferred to the U.S.S. Osborne, a destroyer based in the Pacific. While on ship he met a bunch of young men from the Carolinas, Georgia, Tennessee and other Southeastern states. They could play many stringed instruments as easy as a boy from Montana could dig a posthole with a shovel. They were close to the Nashville artists and kept Archie accountable to their standard rather than doing it his way. Archie always like to embellish a song to his liking, changing a few words or notes.

After being honorably discharged from the Navy, Archie moved to Billings. He could make a better living in town, but he always kept his country roots. He formed a country music group and they played in their homes. They played quite an assortment of instruments and had a great time. Some were transferred out of town and due to work schedules the group broke up. So his guitar playing went by the wayside for about 30 years.

When he retired he built a log house on the ranch south of Columbus. He was hurt in a tractor accident and leased the ranch to his son-in-law's.

He read about the YBA in the Gazette and took his guitar down to the Lincoln Center and eased into it, finding he had forgotten more than he'd remembered. He likes to sing along with others and especially his grandchildren. Archie likes all kinds of music but when given a choice he'll take Bluegrass and old time music, especially Bluegrass Gospel. He would also like to know how others with the YBA got started in the Bluegrass music.

Send your story to Rick Wingerter and we'll try to get it into the newsletter.

30th Annual
SPBGMA* Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America
BLUEGRASS MUSIC AWARDS
& 21ST NATIONAL CONVENTION
Sheraton Music City—Nashville, Tennessee
(Some of the Categories and)
2004 AWARD NOMINEES

BLUEGRASS SONG WRITER OF THE YEAR

1. Harley Allen
2. Bill Castle
3. Larry Cordle
4. Tom T. Hall & Dixie Hall
5. Carl Jackson
6. Wayne Taylor

BLUEGRASS ALBUM OF THE YEAR

1. "COLDEST PART OF WINTER"—Larry Sparks/Rebel Records
2. "ONE STEP AHEAD"—by Rhonda Vincent/Rounder Records
3. "SHAPE OF A TEAR"—by Lynn Morris Band/Rounder Records
4. "SINGING ON STREETS OF GOLD"—by IIIrd Tyme Out/CMG Records
5. "SONGS FROM THE WORKBENCH"—by Larry Cordle & Lonesome Standard Time/Shell Point Records
6. "STARTING OVER"—Ronnie Bowman/Sugar Hill Records

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Traditional)

1. Dale Ann Bradley
2. Polly Lewis
3. Lynn Morris
4. Michelle Nixon
5. Valerie Smith
6. Jeanette Williams

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR (Traditional)

1. James King
2. Del McCoury
3. Don Rigsby
4. Larry Sparks
5. Ralph Stanley
6. Dan Tyminski

GOSPEL GROUP OF THE YEAR (Traditional)

1. Larry Cordle & Lonesome Standard Time
2. Green Valley Grass
3. The Lewis Family
4. Jerry & Tammy Sullivan
5. The Village Singers
6. Paul William & The Victory Trio

GOSPEL GROUP OF THE YEAR (Traditional)

1. Larry Cordle & Lonesome Standard Time
2. Green Valley Grass
3. The Lewis Family
4. Jerry & Tammy Sullivan
5. The Village Singers
6. Paul William & The Victory Trio

GOSPEL GROUP OF THE YEAR (Overall)

1. The Lewis Family
2. The Marksmen
3. Mountain Heart
4. New Found Road
5. Village Singers
6. Paul Williams & The Victory Trio

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

1. Bluebridge
2. Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver
3. Mountain Heart
4. Rarely Herd
5. Larry Stephenson Band
6. IIIrd Tyme Out

INSTRUMENTAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

1. Blue Highway
2. Bluebridge
3. Lonesome River Band
4. Del McCoury Band
5. IIIrd Tyme Out
6. Rhonda Vincent & The Rage

SONG OF THE YEAR

1. "A SIMPLE LIFE"—by Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder/Skaggs Family Records
2. "HARLAN"—by Michelle Nixon & Drive/Pinecastle Records
3. "KENTUCKY BORDERLINE"—by Rhonda Vincent/Rounder Records
4. "SHAPE OF A TEAR"—by Lynn Morris Band/Rounder Records
5. "THAT BLUEGRASS MUSIC"—by The Gibson Brothers/Sugar Hill Records
6. "YOU AIN'T LIVED"—Larry Sparks/Rebel Records

Doc Watson Receives Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement

Recording Academy News—December 19, 2003

The Recording Academy has named recording artists Van Cliburn, The Funk Brothers, Ella Jenkins, Sonny Rollins, Artie Shaw, and **Doc Watson** as recipients of the 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award. Formal acknowledgment of the awards will be made during the 46th Annual GRAMMY Awards ceremony at Staples Center in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 8, 2004 and will be broadcast on CBS.

Arthel “Doc” Watson is one of the most influential folk/country guitar players of our time, and his beautiful voice, great instrumental talent, and mastery of traditional material have made him an American treasure. Watson sings and picks with an emotional authenticity that is unsurpassed. Many of today’s great artists—including Ricky Skaggs, Vince Gill, and Emmylou Harris have acknowledged his influence. Additionally, Watson’s encyclopedic knowledge of American traditional songs has provided a cultural service by preserving the legacy of music in our country. He has performed and recorded for five decades, and during this time has won six GRAMMY Awards, including Best Traditional Folk Album at the 45th Annual GRAMMY Awards in New York.

The Lifetime Achievement Award honors lifelong artistic contributions to the recording medium, while the Trustees Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the industry in a non-performing capacity. Both special merit awards are decided by vote of the Recording Academy’s National Trustees.

Doc Watson is a master of both flat-picking and finger style guitar playing. His recordings have been the guide for guitarists who are learning any style today. His performances continue to draw large audiences and he was recently featured on the Rounder CD and video DVD albums, “*The Three Pickers*.”

This is an honor for a man who has given so much to folk, acoustic, and bluegrass music. Be sure and catch the awards during the Grammy Awards this February.