

# “Bluegrass Clippings”

July—August 2005

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

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**Newsletter Editor**—Rick Wingerter

## PRAIRIE WINDS CAFE

"Longtime Lonesome Dogs" 7-16  
"Borderline" 7-23  
"Spur of the Moment" 7-30  
"Ramblin' Laurels" 8-6  
"Borderline" 8-13  
"Spur of the Moment" 8-20  
"Willard Ferch and Friends" 8-27  
"Southbound" 9-3  
"Ramblin' Laurels" 9-10  
"Borderline" 9-17  
"Cold Frosty Morning" 9-24

**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.**

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## JAMES HENRY "JIMMY" MARTIN (August 10, 1927-May 14,2005)

"Hit Parade Of Love," "Ocean Of Diamonds," "Sophronie," "My Walking Shoes," "Tennessee," "Milwaukee Here I Come," and "Freeborn Man" are but a few of the standards in bluegrass introduced and popularized by one of its greatest singers and personalities, that of Jimmy Martin.

In a professional career that lasted 55 years, Jimmy Martin left a lasting legacy. The music of Jimmy Martin was not easy to play. Nor was it easy to understand Jimmy Martin, the man. A phenomenal rhythm guitarist who had a great ear for a song, a strict band leader, a flashy showman, consummate entertainer, and a stylist who possessed one of the most commercially appealing voices the genre has ever known-these were just some of his noteworthy characteristics.

Along the way, he recorded some of the most commercial and radio-friendly bluegrass ever made. He was also one of the most entertaining and complex personalities in the genre's history. In fact, Jimmy Martin was involved in bluegrass almost as long as bluegrass music as we know it has existed.

**KEEP UP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOCAL BLUEGRASS CIRCLE.  
YOU CAN FIND THE LATEST INFORMATION ON THE YBA WEB PAGE**

**<http://www.yellowstonebluegrass.org>**

## **A NOTE ABOUT Y.B.A. & CISEL HALL**

THE Y.B.A. AND CISEL HALL AT MSU-BILLINGS ARE BECOMING WELL KNOWN IN PROFESSIONAL BLUEGRASS CIRCLES. MONTANA HAS LONG BEEN A DESIRABLE VENUE FOR BLUEGRASS BANDS. HOWEVER, IN THE PAST , MOST OF THE FOCUS OF THE PROFESSIONAL BANDS HAS BEEN AT VENUES IN WESTERN MONTANA, I.E. BOZEMAN, MISSOULA, FLATHEAD, ETC., AND NOT BILLINGS. BILLINGS WAS VIRGIN TERRITORY AND MOST BANDS COULD NOT FINANCIALLY JUSTIFY CHANCING A GIG IN THE BILLINGS AREA.

A FEW YEARS AGO, I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY, THE Y.B.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ESTABLISHED A RELATIONSHIP WITH DOUG EZELL AND MSU-BILLINGS, WHICH LED TO THE USE OF CISEL HALL, "AT NO CHARGE", AS A CONCERT VENUE FOR PROFESSIONAL BLUEGRASS BANDS. THIS ALLOWED THEM TO SET A NOMINAL DOOR CHARGE, \$10-\$15, WITH ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO THE BANDS.

THEN THEY SEARCHED FOR BANDS THAT WERE BEING BOOKED ELSEWHERE, BUT HAD TO COME THROUGH OR NEAR BILLINGS TO GET TO THEIR BOOKED DESTINATION. SOME OF THESE BANDS AGREED TO STOP IN BILLINGS, GIVE A CONCERT AT CISEL, MAKE SOME EXTRA MONEY, AND THEN TRAVEL ON TO THEIR BOOKING DESTINATION .

AS EACH BAND PLAYED CISEL HALL, ALL WERE EXTREMELY IMPRESSED WITH THE FACILITY. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET BEEN THERE, THE HALL IS OF STUDIO QUALITY, BUILT WITH LIVE RADIO PERFORMANCES ON NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO IN MIND.

BECAUSE OF THE WONDERFUL ACOUSTICS OF THE HALL, THE AUDIENCE IS CARRIED AWAY BY THE CLEAR, CLEAN SOUNDS OF GREAT BLUEGRASS MUSIC, WHILE THE BANDS FEED OFF THE APPLAUSE AND CHEERS OF APPROVAL OF THE AUDIENCE AS IT IS AMPLIFIED BY THE ACOUSTICS OF THE HALL.

EVERY BLUEGRASS BAND THAT HAS EVER PLAYED CISEL HAS RAVED ABOUT THE QUALITY OF THE HALL AND THE ENTHUSIASM OF THE AUDIENCE. MANY ARE TALKING IT UP WITH OTHER BANDS, FRIENDS, AND MANAGERS IN THE BUSINESS.

IN IT'S BEGINNING STAGES, WE HAD ONLY 2-3 CONCERTS AT CISEL PER YEAR. THIS YEAR TO DATE, WE'VE HAD PERFORMANCES FROM: (JAN.) "THE BROKEN VALLEY ROAD SHOW", (FEB.) "OPEN ROAD", (MAR.) "HIT & RUN" AND (JUNE) " THE WILDERS". IN JULY , WE HAVE SCHEDULED "LEAH LARSON AND DALE ADKINS" ON SUNDAY JUL Y 17TH AT 8 PM AND "OPEN ROAD" AND "TWO HIGH STRING BAND" APPEARING TOGETHER ON THURSDAY JUL Y 28TH AT 7-10PM. IN AUGUST, "CHRIS STUART AND BACK COUNTRY" WILL APPEAR ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 16TH AT 8 PM

MANY THANKS TO THOSE EARLY PIONEERS ON THE BOARD A FEW YEARS AGO IN THEIR FORESIGHT AND EFFORTS TO GET THIS BALL ROLLING. BLUEGRASS IS ALIVE AND WELL IN BILLINGS, MT. AIN'T IT GREAT! ! !

IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TO ANY OF THESE CONCERTS AT CISEL HALL, YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING OUT ON .

YOUR PICKING PARTNER,  
MIKE ROLISON

## Funny, very funny

A very intense, self-absorbed banjo player is sitting at the bar after playing all night. A beautiful woman shyly approaches him and says, "Excuse me, I hate to intrude, but I just have to tell you that I saw you play tonight. I have never been so deeply affected by music before. It's like it woke up my mind and my heart. It also woke me up as a woman. Your music touched me so deeply that I just want to take you home with me and make mad passionate love to you all night long." The banjo player stares at her for a moment and asks, "Did you see the first set or the second set?" .

"'Thanks for the bass you gave me for Christmas,' little Ricky said to his uncle the first time he saw him after the holidays. 'It's the best Christmas present I ever got.'

'That's great,' said his uncle. 'Do you know how to play it?'

'Oh, I don't play it,' the little fellow said. 'My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five dollars a week not to play it at night.'"

"While I was preaching in a church in Mississippi, the pastor announced that their prison quartet would be singing the following evening. I wasn't aware there was a prison in the vicinity and I looked forward to hearing them.

The next evening, I was puzzled when four members of the church approached the stage. Then the pastor introduced them.

'This is our prison quartet,' he said, 'behind a few bars and always looking for the key.'"

### *Hansen Music* **1819 Grand Avenue**

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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**

### **For Sale or Trade**

1 Fostex eight track reel to reel Tape recorder. Works very well. Includes empty reel and 20 used 6"x1/4 in reels of tape. Start your own Recording Studio...\$200.00

Contact: Rick Wingerter for listing your items.  
@ 406-259-1291 or, [rwingerter@montana.net](mailto:rwingerter@montana.net)

### **Bluegrass Service at St. Olaf's Church**

**Sunday, Aug 21, 2 pm**  
**Potluck lunch & Jam follows the service.**  
**Located 6 miles southwest of Cooney Dam.**  
**Contact Terry Indreland for direction.**

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One More River is the latest self-produced CD from Idaho's premier bluegrass band, the Buckhorn Mountain Boys, on their own BMB Records label.

This CD is different from BMB's previous projects in that many of the songs were written by Idaho and other Northwest regional songwriters. Many of the songs have never been performed in a bluegrass style until now. Dobro player extraordinaire, Pat Massie from Nampa, Idaho lends his talents to several cuts on this CD. BMB's banjo player, Mike Bond, contributed a hot banjo instrumental "Buckhorn Mountain Breakdown" to the project and also included is a remake of AI Jackson's "Blow Wyoming Blow". Other regional songwriters also contributing to this CD include: Steve Brown, Dale Keys, Steve Eaton, Muzzie Braun, Bruce Hauser, Richard Dobson, Pinto Bennett, Mike Stahlman, and Rick and Lora Wingerter.

The Buckhorn Mountain Boys performing on this CD include: Al Jackson; lead vocals, guitar and mandolin. Mike Bond; banjo and harmony vocals. Rue Frisbee; fiddle, and harmony vocals and Donna Bond; bass and harmony vocals.

"These guys are one of the best, freshest sounds to come along in quite awhile. If you have a chance to lay your hands on their album, Take the Backroad Home, you will never regret it".  
*Milch Pruitt, Program Director, KFXD Boise Idaho*

"This four piece ensemble combines traditional bluegrass with original flair and have a deep appreciation for the preservation of true bluegrass music which shows in their tight vocal harmonies and obvious joy in what they do".

*Molly King, Boise Weekly*

<http://www.buckhornmountainboys.com>

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

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***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](http://www.wingnut.net/loralea/htm)**

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## Mark your calendars.

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### Swan Lake Open Aire Music Fest

Sat, September 17, 2005 Only

Beautiful Swan Lake Montana hosts the 4th Annual Open Aire Music Fest on September 17th. Four bands representing bluegrass, folk, Celtic and Old Time Rockabilly will play out of doors at various Swan Lake village venues beginning at 2pm, ending with a dance and BBQ at the Swan Lake Community Hall. Lodging and Festival packages available through Laughing Horse Lodge. Camping available at Swan Lake Trading Post and Swan Lake USFS Campground (rated in the top 10 of the nation's best USFS camping destinations). Ticket price is \$18 and includes all venues plus evening dance and BBQ.

#### For Information, contact:

Name Kathleen Moon

Email [laughinghorsemontana@yahoo.com](mailto:laughinghorsemontana@yahoo.com)

Phone 406-886-2080

Phone 406-886-2303

### Happy Jack Music Festival

Entertainment for the Whole Family!

CHEYENNE, WY -MAY 27, 2005-At a time when prices are skyrocketing and wholesome entertainment is hard to find, bring the family to Curt Gowdy State Park in Wyoming, August 12- 14. You can spend the weekend relaxing in the beautiful outdoors and listening to eighteen great acts from Wyoming and Colorado for a very reasonable price. Curt Gowdy is located between Laramie & Cheyenne on the Happy Jack Road. The festival will start on Friday, August 13 at 5 pm with music until 10 pm. Saturday the bands will play from 10 am- 10 pm. Sunday is all gospel music and the day will start with a worship service at 10 am followed by a sing-along, then music all afternoon.

The festival will feature **Jody Adams, Betwixt 'N Between, Big Hollow, Bill Threefeathers Bunting, Circuit Riders, The Coffee Family, Drop of the Hat, The Hartmans, The Harvesters, , Heartwood Hollow, Hot Lunch Bluegrass, Other Mountain Band, Rawhide Band, The Roe Family Band, The Stanleytones, Timberline, Warren Kennison and True Blue Grass, Jim Young and Fred & Cathay Zipp.** These artists will bring a mix of bluegrass, bluegrass gospel, country, folk, new grass, oldtime music and cowboy poetry .On Saturday there will be instrument workshops and contests.

On Thursday, Aug. 11 there will be a free pre-festival concert featuring **The Stanleytones** in Cheyenne at 7 pm at the Depot Plaza. Bring a picnic dinner. On Friday, Aug. 12 at 10:00 am there will be free Kid's Concerts in both Laramie and Cheyenne. In Laramie **The Hartmans** will play at the Washington Park Bandshell, and in Cheyenne **The Roe Family** will be performing at The Gazebo at Lion's Park.

Concessions at the festival will be provided by the Laramie County Fire District No.8 as a fundraiser for the fire department.

Rough camping is available at Curt Gowdy State Park or in the area near the amphitheater. Park fees: non-campers, daily use fee of \$2 for WY residents, \$4 for non-residents. Overnight camping per vehicle: residents, \$6 per night, non-residents, \$12 per night. These amounts include the daily use fee. The festival fees are: \$6, Friday, \$13 Saturday, or \$15 for the weekend. Kids 6- 12 are half price. Kids under 6 are free. Admission is free on Sunday for the festival and at the state park.

Come on out to Curt Gowdy State Park to enjoy great music and great scenery!

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# YBA SUMMER 2005 EVENTS

<b>Venues for YBA Bands</b>		
Double Edge 104 North 29th Street Billings, Mt 59101 (406) 248-7770 Contact Person: Ed (Especially looking for Gospel music!)	American Legion Club 1540 Broadwater Avenue Billings, Mt 59102 (406) 656-1510 Contact Person: Norma	Yellowstone Valley Brewing Company 2123 1st Avenue North Billings, Mt 59101 (406) 245-0918 Contact Person: Travis

**Every Friday    Jam with the YBA**  
 9 pm at Grand Ave Pizza Hut

**Sun, Jul. 17    Leah Larson Concert**  
 8 pm at Cisel Recital Hall, MSU-B Tickets are \$10 at the door.

**Thu, Jul. 28    Open Road/Two High String Band Concert**  
 7 pm at Cisel Recital Hall, MSU-B Tickets are \$15 at the door

**Aug. 5-7    Fiddler's Picnic**  
 Livingston, Montana

**Aug. 12-14 Musician's Rendezvous**  
 Columbus, Montana

**Aug. 26-27**

**Red Lodge Bluegrass  
 Festival**

- **Two High String Band**
- **Jim & Jennie & the Pinetops**
- **Packway Handle**
- **Broken Valley Roadshow**
- **8 Local Bands**

**Red Lodge Rodeo Grounds**

Friday Aug. 26    6 pm-10:30 pm  
 Saturday Aug. 27    10 am-10 pm

Tickets

	<u>Advanced Sales</u>	<u>Gate Sales</u>
Friday	\$15	\$20
Saturday	\$20	\$25
Both	\$25	\$30

Raffle for Weber Mandolin and Deering Banjo  
 Free Camping (No Services)  
 Event to benefit Red Lodge Fire Dept & EMT

**Fri, Oct. 28    YBA Fall Showcase**  
 7 pm at Lincoln Auditorium  
 Free of charge

**All events are subject to change. Please consult website for updates**