

“Bluegrass Clippings”

January—February 2005

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

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PRAIRIE WINDS CAFE

"Closed" 1/1
"Highway 302" 1/8
"Fred & Jeanne Buckley" 1/15
"Elk River Ramblers" 1/22
"Cold Frosty Morning" 1/29
"Cash & Friends" 2/5
"Long Time Lonesome Dogs" 2/12

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.

Cameo Exhibit Banjo Man: The Musical Journey of Earl Scruggs to Open at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum on March 4, 2005

Nashville -The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum will survey the life and career of banjo guru Earl Scruggs in Banjo Man: The Musical Journey of Earl Scruggs, a cameo exhibit opening in the Museum's East Gallery on March 4,2005. The exhibit also honors Scruggs' wife and business partner, Louise Certain Scruggs. Banjo Man will remain open through June 16, 2006.

Bill Monroe Post Office Signed Into Law

In honor of Bill Monroe, the father of Bluegrass Music, the post office of Rosine, Ky was officially named the Bill Monroe Post Office. On December 21, 2004, President Bush signed into law H.R. 4968,

which designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located in Rosine, Kentucky, as the Bill Monroe Post Office

COMING EVENTS

Broken Valley Roadshow will appear at Cisel Hall on January 15th.

Open Road will appear on February 11th and **Hit and Run** will likely appear in March. Please check the website for details.

The **Molt Meatball Dinner** is scheduled for February 27th.

Letter from the President

January 2005

A HUGE "THANK YOU " TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN THE ANNALS OF THE YELLOWSTONE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION. I'M SURE THAT I SPEAK FOR THE ENTIRE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN SAYING THAT IT HAS BEEN A REAL PRIVILEGE AND HONOR TO REPRESENT YOU IN 2004.

BECAUSE OF YOUR EFFORTS, WE HAVE HAD A BANNER YEAR IN MANY ASPECTS OF OUR ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS. MORE AND MORE, BLUEGRASS MUSIC IS BECOMING THE MUSIC OF CHOICE FOR MANY IN OUR AREA, AND WE CLOSED OUT THE YEAR 2004 WITH 100 MEMBERSHIPS. THOUGH IT IS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHO PROVIDE ORGANIZATIONAL DIRECTION & PLANNING, IN THE END, IT IS YOU, THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP WHO MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN, AND WITHOUT YOUR EFFORTS, WE THE BOARD WOULD BE "JUST SPINNING OUR WHEELS". SO THANKS AGAIN FOR A JOB WELL DONE.

SPEAKING OF THE-BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT THEY HAVE DONE A SUPER JOB OF REPRESENTING YOU AND YOUR INTERESTS THIS YEAR. I'M SURE THAT I'M SPEAKING FOR ALL OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP WHEN I SAY "THANK YOU BOARD FOR YOUR JOB SO WELL DONE".

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK RICK WINGERTER FOR HIS TIRELESS EDITORIAL EFFORT IN PUTTING TOGETHER OUR BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT Y.B.A. FUNCTION, AND CAN BE QUITE STRESSFUL IF THE MEMBERSHIP DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN PROVIDING INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWS. LETTERS. THE VERY BEST WAY TO TELL RICK THANK YOU FOR HIS JOB WELL DONE, IS TO SEND/GIVE HIM SOMETHING OF INTEREST TO INCLUDE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER YEAR OF PICKIN' AND GRINNIN' WITH YA ALL.

Your Pickin' Partner, Mike Rolison

A Little Humor!

A group of missionaries were in Africa. As they went through a village, they could hear the sound of drums heightening. One of the missionaries remarked, "I don't like the sound of those drums." A cry came up from the village: "IT'S NOT OUR REGULAR DRUMMER!"

"Didja hear about the banjo player named 6 7/8 Swinerton? His parents drew his name out of a hat."!

There is an accordion player driving home from a late night gig. Feeling tired, he pulls into a local store for some coffee. While waiting to pay, he remembers that he locked his car doors but left the accordion in plain view on the back seat of his car! He rushes out only to realize that he is too late. The back window of his car was smashed and somebody had already thrown in two more accordions.

I don't usually pass on sad news like this, but sometimes we need to pause and remember what life is all about. There was a great loss recently in the entertainment world. Larry LaPrise, the Detroit native who " wrote the song "Hokey Pokey" died last week at age 83. It was especially difficult for the family to keep him in the casket. They'd put his left leg in...

"Doc, I can't stop singing "The green, green grass of home."" "That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome." "Is it common?" "It's not unusual."

Two young women were commiserating one evening over coffee at the local diner: "The man I marry must be a shining star among men! " one said. "He will be musical, tell funny stories and stay home at night." The grandmother in the next booth leaned over and confided, "Dear, if that's what you really want, get a T.V."

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

For Sale or Trade

2 - JBL MR925 Speakers, 15 inch. \$400 pair.
1 - Peavey 112HS Wedge Floor Monitor, 12 inch. \$100
1 - Fender BXR 100 Bass Amplifier. \$250
1 - Sound Tech 306D 6 Ch. Amp Head. \$75
Gil Carrington, 259-6742 or gilbertc@imt.net

Contact Rick Wingerter
@ (406) 259-1291 or, rwingerter@montana.net

2005 Dues Are Due Now!

Please include your email address with your application form.

Banks of the Ohio

Banks of the Ohio: Music From the Homeplace of Bluegrass is a three-hour weekly webcast produced by Fred Bartenstein for the International Bluegrass Music Museum in Owensboro, KY. The show explores the history of bluegrass music from 1940 to the present (and beyond), and is aimed at both knowledgeable and neophyte listeners. The show is produced in the studios of WYSO at Antioch University.

There are six half-hour segments:

1. Sources of Songs and Styles features a snippet of a pre-bluegrass recording, fading into a bluegrass version. You might be surprised to find out where some bluegrass songs come from!
2. Dawn of the Bluegrass Era plays songs from 1940-1954, from Hall of Honor inductees and lesser-known pioneers.
3. Starving Out covers 1955-1964, when rock and roll threatened the ability of bluegrass and traditional country musicians to earn a living and find an audience. Hard times forced us to get creative, and infiltrate country and folk markets.
4. The Festival Era replays music from 1965-1982, when festivals blossomed, building audiences and a new generation of musicians.
5. Modern Roots features bluegrass from 1983 to the present which builds upon what has come before --the "traditional sound," freshly interpreted in the CD era.
6. Walls of Time to Come closes the show with a sampling of experiments in bluegrass, from the beginning to the present (and beyond). Not all of these experiments succeed, but they make for some interesting listening.

Fred Bartenstein is heard all over the world as host of "Banks of the Ohio." His encyclopedic knowledge of bluegrass and related styles provides an informative context, and his impeccable choice of musical selections guarantees a seamlessly entertaining experience. Fred enjoys corresponding with listeners at BanksoftheOhio@aol.com Fred got his start in radio at the age of 16 on WREL (Robert E. Lee!) in Lexington, Virginia. While still in high school, he helped Bill Vernon and Tom Whitmore produce "Country Music" on WBAI in New York City, and hosted "Grassroots of Music" on WDHA, Dover, New Jersey. While in college, he helped with the famous "Hillbilly at Harvard" on WHRB in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In Ohio since 1975, he has also been heard on "Bluegrass Special" over WONE, (Dayton); "Faded Love," "Country Music College of the Air," and "Bluegrass Breakdown" on WYSO (Yellow Springs/Dayton);

You can hear Fred's shows at <http://www.bluegrasscountry.org> Thursday 6-9 pm, Saturday 12-3 am, Monday, 3-6 pm, Tuesday, 3-6 am, Wednesday 9-12

Missy Rains

Missy Raines is one of Bluegrass music's most prominent and well respected bass players. With a sharp mind for business, Missy, who is now based in the Nashville area, serves on the Board of Directors of the International Bluegrass Music Association. Our own Lee Michael Demsey chatted with her a few months back, while attending the IBMA conference in Louisville, Kentucky .

Missy Raines was voted "Bass Player of the Year" by the International Bluegrass Music Association for 1998,1999,2000, 2001 and 2004. She was also named the 1999 "Bass Fiddle Player of the Year" by the Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America, and Bluegrass Now magazine readers voted Missy the 1999 "Fans' Choice" Bass Player. Missy is the only woman to receive this honor. Missy's solo recording "My Place In The Sun" (MR Records, 1999) was named one of the Top Five Bluegrass recordings of 1998 by the Chicago Tribune. It was also nominated for Instrumental Album of the Year in 1999 by the IBMA.

Born in Cumberland, MD, Missy grew up in Short Gap, West Virginia. She began playing guitar at age ten but switched to bass by age twelve. During the next six years, she played traditional bluegrass, old-time and new grass with several different regional bands, traveling across West Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC, Pennsylvania and Virginia. In 1981, she joined the Virginia-based group Cloud Valley .During her tenure with this band, Missy performed in a national tour of Barry Chapin's Broadway musical Cotton Patch Gospel.

In 1995, Missy joined Claire Lynch's Front Porch String Band and toured and recorded with her for the next 6 years appearing on two of Claire's Rounder release, including the Grammy nominated, Silver and Gold and LoveLight. For the last several years, Missy has been touring full time with award-winning guitarist Jim Burst performing as a duo and recording 2 CD's, TWO and SYNERGY available on Pinecastle Records.

2005 will see Missy performing in several different settings. She and Jim Burst will continue to perform as a duo and the two of them will also be performing with Claire Lynch as she comes out of a musical hibernation and hits the road again with a new recording on Rounder slated for release sometime next year.

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

MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN'

(HER MEM'RIES TONIGHT)

3/4 time Waltz

(C) I STOPPED BY MISS MAGGIE'S ON MY WAY HOME TONIGHT
JUST CHECKIN' TO SEE IF SHE WAS (G) DOIN' ALRIGHT
I (F) ASKED HER IF THERE'S ANY-(C)-THING THAT SHE NEEDS
SHE (G) SMILED AND SAID WOULD YOU WALTZ WITH ME (C) PLEASE

(F) MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN' HER (C) MEM'RIES TONIGHT
SOME-(G)-WHERE IN THE PAST AS SHE HOLDS ME (C) TIGHT
SHE'S (F) LIKE A YOUNG GIRL IN THE (C) SOFT CANDLE LIGHT
(G) MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN' HER MEM'RIES TO-(C)-NIGHT

(C) SHE TALKED ABOUT BILLY AND BRUSHED BACK HER TEARS
SHE SAID THEY'D BEEN MARRIED FOR (G) THIRTY EIGHT YEARS
SHE (F) SAID BILLY'S WAITING WITH (C) JESUS ABOVE
AND (G) LORD SHE MISSED WALTZIN' WITH HER ONLY (C) LOVE

REPEAT CHORUS

MODULATE

(D) THE DR. JUST CALLED FROM HER BEDSIDE TO SAY
HE'S SORRY BUT MAGGIE HAD (A) JUST PASSED AWAY
HE (G) SAID THAT SHE DIED WITH A (D) SMILE ON HER FACE
AND (A) TONIGHT SHE'S A WALTZIN' IN A MUCH BETTER (D) PLACE

(G) MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN' HER (D) MEM'RIES TONIGHT
SOME-(A)-WHERE IN THE DISTANCE SHE HOLDS BILLY (D) TIGHT
SHE'S (G) LIKE A YOUNG GIRL IN THE (D) HEAVENLY LIGHT
(A) MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN' HER MEM'RIES TO-(D)-NIGHT

YES (A) MAGGIE'S A WALTZIN' WITH BILLY TO-(D)-NIGHT

WRITTEN BY RICK & LORA WINGERTER
PUBLISHED BY WINGERTER MUSIC BMI

Send your story to Rick Wingerter and we'll try to get it into the newsletter..
416 Hillview Lane, Billings, Montana 59101
or email him at, rwingerter@montana.net

2003 Survey Shows Rise in Bluegrass Popularity

The recently released Spring 2003 study by Simmons Market Research notes a continued increase in bluegrass consumers for 2003 with 8 million adults (18 or older) indicating they purchased a bluegrass recorded product in the last 12 months. Since the year 2000, bluegrass music has experienced a 104% increase in consumers and a growth in popularity unprecedented in recent genre history.

Survey respondents (U.S. Adults 18 and older) who indicated they had purchased recording(s) of bluegrass music in the last 12 months:

2000: 3,927,000 2001: 4,727,000 2002: 6,094,000 2003: 7,995,000

Ricky Skaggs, leader of the reigning IBMA Instrumental Group of the Year Kentucky Thunder says, "A lot of people have really worked hard to get bluegrass out there to the masses...it's now on CMT, GAC, satellite radio. It's in a lot of the major retail outlets like Wal-Mart, K-Mart and Best Buy finally. That didn't just happen overnight. There have been a lot of people working really hard to get bluegrass to the level where it is now, and they'll continue to work to grow it."

Others agree, including Doyle Lawson, leader of the highly awarded group Quicksilver, who comments, "I believe better recordings, better productions and over all more thought and care put into recordings than there used to be, have helped the growth of our music. I think in general people are looking for music with a sense of authenticity instead of the formulated music that they have been force fed for too many years."

Bluegrass consumers are a diverse audience spread from coast-to-coast and around the world. Current research shows that 84.6% earn more than \$30K per year and their #1 leisure activity is listening to music. In addition, 64% of consumers are between the ages of 25 and 54. Those who choose bluegrass music as their most purchased genre of music are also an active group of people. They thoroughly enjoy backpacking and are 202% more likely to do so than the general population. They are 80% more likely to take overnight camping trips than the average consumer, and bicycling, skiing, hunting and playing golf are a big part of their recreational activities.

Bluegrass music's far reaching appeal is felt by fans and musicians of other genres as well. Paddy Maloney, founding member of the legendary Irish band The Chieftains, states "Bluegrass, to me, is not a mechanical thing. It is something that comes out of your soul, your mind...it's improvised. It's a flow of music that once you get going, you can't stop. You've got to hear more...it's amazing!"

The heaviest concentration of bluegrass consumers (47.49%) is in the southern region of the United States; however 23.66% live in the Midwest, 18.46% live out West and 10.39% live in the Northeast. They take an unconventional approach to life, enjoy taking risks and in turn are very happy with life as it is.

Important audience information about the bluegrass music consumer is currently available through data compiled from Simmons Market Research's annual Survey of the American Household. The data is valuable to the bluegrass industry in profiling the number of people in the U.S. who purchase bluegrass recordings and connecting them with purchases of other good and services.

Simmons Market Research, one of the most respected companies collecting consumer data, conducts the annual survey of more than 20,000 U.S. homes on a yearly basis.