

BLUEGRASS CLIPPINGS

May-June 2010



Newsletter of the Yellowstone Blue Grass Association

Annual Dues: \$15.00 per individual \$25.00 per Family

Officers

Wade Steinmetz President
Trent Indreland V.P.
Terry Indreland Secy-Treas.

Board Members

Ed Pierson
Brad Sherseth
David Nelson
Chuck Bishop

Activities

Friday Night Jams 7-9 P.M. Lincoln Center
Band Showcases Fall and Spring
Bluegrass Sponsored Concerts
As Scheduled
Kaleva Park Pig Roast Bones Pizza Party

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LINCOLN JAMS END FRIDAY MAY 28TH

The Lincoln building staff goes on their summer schedule in June and the music room is not available to us until Fall. Pickers are encouraged to come to Hardee's on North 27th beginning in June. Kindly do not come before 8 PM as we do not want to disturb their evening meal customers. Some fans regularly come though and we do need enough pickers to keep it going through the summer. Last year it really petered out by July. Our old friend Mississippi Bill Lowry we be coming in August this year. We always enjoy his finger style guitar picking. Keep your chops up by going to Hardee's on Friday nights and attending some of the good summer activities in various locations around the region.

KALEVA PARK SUMMER BARBECUE

This summer the Kaleva Park summer event will be held the weekend of August 21st. This is a members only event. It will be a pot luck on Saturday with BBQ meat provided. More information later.



HANSEN MUSIC IS A MAJOR SPONSOR OF Y.B.A. CONCERTS

SPRING PIZZA PARTY AT BONES BREWING



The spring pizza party/jam was held at Bones Brewery on March 28th, 2010, a beautiful Spring day. It was so nice that some members may have opted to be outside enjoying one of the best days of 2010, rather than attend this indoor event. Nevertheless, sixteen picker-fiddlers jammed away for two hours beginning at 2 P.M. A number of family members and friends were there to enjoy the music as well. Four fiddles showed up which was a bit unusual for one of our jams and the Rambling Laurels were there in force to keep things lively. Beginning at 4 P.M the pickers took a break to have some great pizza courtesy of the YBA. As usual a good time was had by all and we are already looking forward to next year.

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SPRING SHOW CASE APRIL 9, 2010

Larry Larson and Highway 302



Many have described this as the best showcase yet. Long time YBA supporter and advocate for traditional music, Doug Ezell, brought his Celtic band, "Banish Misfortune" (named for a traditional Irish jig - and something we would all like to see happen in real life), for a rousing set. All old time musicians know of Dr. Doug's prowess, but this is the first time I have seen him perform on bones and blues harp. Wow! (BTW, Doug, when you can play a set of bones in both hands you will be a real Appalachian percussionist! I have tried and it ain't easy!) As good a musician as Doug is, he is surrounded by college graduates with music degrees in this band. Most of us are just "hit or miss," learn the hard way by ear, pickers, but not this bunch. That is why their harmonies are so tight and their instrumentals are right on. They don't play bluegrass, but we always have room for a really talented traditional acoustic group to lend their music to one of our showcases. Another BTW, one of their guys led a concert of the high school Tri-County Honor Band at Lincoln Auditorium a couple of weeks later. They then left on a tour into Colorado and among other performances played at a Colorado Rockies game. Your editor has a granddaughter playing alto sax in that group. (Brag, brag, brag. Yeah, I know.)

Your editor also shot many photos during the showcase. Some are pretty good, others are not so hot. So goes photography. If any of the performing bands would like a free CD containing the photos contact me in person or at the e-mail/phone on the masthead above.



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BLUEGRASS CLIPPINGS IS NOW ONLINE!

If members wish to continue to receive a copy via the postal service, they are requested to contact Terry Indreland, secretary-treasurer, as soon as possible at (406) 652-4677 or e-mail to: indreland@mac.com. (For downloading photo speed, dial-up users consider this.) **IF YOU CHANGE YOUR INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDER YOU MUST CONTACT TERRY OR HE CANNOT SEND OUR NEWSLETTER TO YOU!** Also, he periodically sends out e-mail notices regarding any scheduled concerts, changes in schedules, reminders of Friday closings at Lincoln, etc. Please keep your internet address up to date with Terry.

CORRECTIONS:

The president, Wade Steinmetz email address in the Mar-Apr Newsletter was incorrect. His correct e-mail address is wades@usadig.com
May 15th band at the Prairie Winds will be Southbound, NOT Cold Frosty Morn
Rick Wingert's name was misspelled in the last newsletter.

The Editor's Desk

Black and white photos of some bands performing at the Spring Showcase are included in this edition of the printed newsletter. More photos are available in the e-mail edition and they are all in color.

APPEARING AT THE PRAIRIE WINDS CAFÉ 9 AM-NOON MOLT, MT

May 1 Justin Johnson & Denise Ray	June 5 Rambling Laurels
May 8 Spur of the Moment	June 12 Southbound
May 15 Southbound	June 19 Spur of the Moment
May 22 Frosty Morn	June 26 Highway 302
May 29 Highway 302	(The entire 2010 Molt schedule is now available on the YBA website.)

SUMMER ACTIVITIES, FESTIVALS, AND CAMPS

Beginning in July there will be many opportunities to hear good music and do some jamming as well. Following are a few examples in our general area:

National Folk Festival, Butte, MT, July 9, 10, 11 Free (Last time in Montana) 224 mi.
Big Horn Mountain Festival Buffalo, WY, July 9, 10, 11 \$40 to \$85 1 or 3 day, advanced or at the gate 166 mi.
Kootenai River Bluegrass Festival July 16, 17 & 18 Troy, MT \$10-15 1 day, \$25 3 day or \$45 family pass 518 mi.
Fiddler's Picnic (Doc Allison/Payne), Livingston, MT, plenty of bluegrass as well as fiddle jamming happens there. July 30, 31, Aug 1 Free 116 mi.
Musician's Rendevous, Itchkepe Park, Columbus, MT, Aug 6, 7, 9, free.
Grand Targhee Bluegrass FESTIVAL, Alta, WY, Aug 13-15, Check website for pricing
Miles City Bluegrass Festival, Sep 17, 18, 19 Eastern MT Fairgrounds, Miles City, MT, \$15 day or \$25 weekend pass. Info: (406) 234-2480 or 853-1678. 146 mi.
(Mileages from Billings. All dates and costs subject to correction.)

MUSIC CAMPS

Montana Fiddle Camp I, June 6-11, Camp II June 13-18, Monarch MT, fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo (wk II only), \$235-\$365 Contact Fred Buckley 323-1198
Bluegrass CAMP, Alta, WY, Aug 10-13 Tuition \$425, Lodging \$350, \$175 shared at the Lodge or camp and provide your own food. Ben Winship (Growling Old Men) director
Wind River Guitar, Mike Dowling, DuBois, WY special and personalized instruction

FIDDLE CONTESTS

Wyoming State Fiddle Contest, May 29-30 Thermopolis QUESTIONS, CALL ED AT 307-

921-8120 OR w.fiddle@bresnan.net
National Old Time Fiddle Contest, June 13-19, Weiser, ID
Montana State Fiddle Contest, July 23-24, Red Lodge, MT
(There is also a fiddle contest at the Big Horn Festival, as well as guitar,
banjo, and mandolin contests.)

ST. JOHN'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The 13th season of the Thursday evening concerts on the Town Square at St. John's Lutheran Ministeries begins on July 8, 2010. The opener starts at 6 PM with the feature at 7 PM. It is free and a low cost BBQ begins at 6 PM. Parking will be more difficult this year as the field east of 38th West is under development for housing. The music includes:

July 8th The Music of Simon and Garfunkel by Dave Oltrogge & Rev. Tim Hathaway
with Booke Wagner and Justin Mills opening.

July 15th Rob Quist and Great Northern Bluegrass Band with Halladay Quist opening.

July 22nd Midlife Chryslers with the Jaded Ladies, Jessica Lechner & Becky Sappington

July 29th Jeff Troxel, Trevor Krieger & Friends. Danny Jones will open for them.

Aug 5th Drum Brothers with Jerod Birchell opening

Aug 12th Magic City Blues - (Maria Muldauer ?) Doc McBride & the Jazz Ramblers

Bluegrass in Missoula ? Will Rogers once said, "All I know is what I read in the newspapers." BUT, DON'T BELIEVE ALL YOU READ IN A NEWSPAPER! While visiting in Missoula, to see a brand new granddaughter, my daughter and I took our fiddles and proceeded to a local watering hole which was advertised in the Missoula Independent as having a circle of pickers doing the "high lonesome sound." There was lot of sound there alright, as the joint was full of young adults having a few cool ones and being very loud. But not a picker in sight. The bartender said they had asked the Independent to stop that announcement as they had NEVER had any picking on Wednesday nights. So, chalk it up to experience.

YBA SPONSORED LOCAL CONCERTS

Summer concerts scheduled include the Blue Canyon Boys of Saturday, July 17, at Venture Theater. They are a Colorado based group and have performed at major venues such as the Telluride Bluegrass Festival where they received acclaim.

On Wednesday, August 18, the Steve Smith and Chris Sanders duo will be at Venture Theater. Admission is \$12 with YBA members at \$10. Age 12 and under free.

YELLOWSTONE BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION WEBSITE: A good source of info regarding YBA and interesting links to bands and other music as well as past newsletters. It now has the entire 2010 band schedule for the Prairie Winds Café in Molt. Check it out at yellowstonebluegrass.com. Trent Indreland is the web master.

Herb Ellis had died at the age of 88

Jazz guitar great, Herb Ellis has died at his home in Los Angeles. He was a devotee of the style of Charlie Christian, who pioneered the guitar in the big bands of the swing era and invented the first guitar pickup. He was part of a trio formed while playing in the Jimmy Dorsey band that wrote Detour Ahead which was recorded by the legendary Billie Holiday. He was a member of the Oscar Peterson trio, which included Ray Brown on bass with Peterson at the piano. A very notable jazz guitar album was recorded with other guitar giants, Barney Kessel and Charlie Byrd in the group Great Guitars, which also performed concerts in many countries. Herb Ellis was 88.

WAY BACK WHEN . . .

About seventeen years ago my wife and I, with our 13 year old daughter, drove to Columbus for Aaron Strange's "Musician's Rendevous." I had been having fun building homemade instruments and I had a guitar and my daughter, Loy, a fiddle. We stopped near a group of jamming musicians and listened for a few minutes. There was a young fellow I had not seen before and he was struggling a bit with a fiddle. We wandered down and joined them and after a few more tunes, Wayne Long, packed up his banjo and left. Then the young guy, Bob Massey, went to his car and came back with a banjo. He proceeded to play some really good sounding banjo rolls and I was quite impressed, as Wayne was the only Scruggs style player I had heard in this area. Bob also had a nice Martin guitar and with his wife, Wanda, sang some great duets in the high, lonesome bluegrass style. Along the way he told me he had "been trying for two years to get a bluegrass club started in Billings." I told him I could sure help with that. We later got together a few times and laid out what we needed to do. Bob was the originator and musician, while I became the facilitator to get the details done to make it happen. That was when and how the conception of the bluegrass association in Billings occurred.

BLUE GRASS RECIPES

The following recipes are from the "Bluegrass Music Cookbook," by Penny Parsons, Ken Beck, and Jim Clark, John F. Blair, publisher, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, copyright 1977. This little essay is written by Thomas Goldsmith and gives you a "flavor" of this book:

"A FEAST HERE TONIGHT, TASTE THE FLAVOR OF BLUEGRASS"

So you've got a bunch of bluegrassers over for dinner. Wade through the sea of pickers in the kitchen and get going early. "Bile 'Em Cabbage Down" and don't forget to turn the hoecakes 'round neither. Start the "Country Ham and Red Gravy." Turn on the skillet for "Short'nin Bread." Your choice of flour is "Martha White." Jaw awhile with "Angeline the Baker" to make sure our biscuits have that "Southern Flavor." Get someone "Shucking the Corn." "Hot corn, Cold Corn"! You decide. Get big ideas when the fiddles play "Chicken Reel" and "Dill Pickle Rag." Remember that it's "Peach Pickin' Time in Georgia." and fix it all with "Sugar Coated Love."

Now go out to the patch and pick you a "Watermelon Hanging on the Vine," while keeping an eye out for "Blackberry Blossom." Then set up the picnic table; you've been "Singing All Day," and it's time for "Dinner on the Ground." Somebody wake up Paw; we can't start without "Father's Table Grace."

Wind up your feast with ice cream, but don't eat too much and get the "Rocky Road Blues."

Here's the hard part: keep those musicians away from the "Good Old Mountain Dew." A "Little Glass of Wine" might do the trick instead."

All recipes in this book are attributed to bluegrass musicians. Most are genuine, but a few are "spoofs." Following is one of each.

BACK PORCH BARBECUE PORK RIBS

FIXINS: 1 pack Caesar salad dressing mix, ½ cup olive oil, 1 T. lemon juice, 1 pound boneless country-style pork ribs, garlic salt, Parmesan cheese grated. Any kind of outdoor grill.

Mix the dressing pack, olive oil, and lemon juice together. Place the ribs in this marinade overnight in the refrigerator. Place on the hot grill and sprinkle on a little garlic salt to taste. When done, sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and let set for 5 minutes on the grill, covered. This is some good eatin'. Don't be afraid to fire up your grill in the winter either. Makes 2 to 4 servings.

Don Reno, The Reno Brothers Band (Ed. Note: sons of banjo great, Don Reno of Reno and Smiley fame.)

SLADE'S ROASTED ROADKILL

A favorite at the EAT CAFÉ in Wyoming, Montana. Run over one armadillo or possum on the highway. Clean it and put it on the engine of your car. Drive 80 mph for 50 miles. Get out and turn the possum (or armadillo) over and drive another 50 miles at 80 mph. Then your possum or armadillo will be done and you can have dinner. Cooking time will vary depending on whether you have a 4 cylinder, 6, or V8.

Slade of Red Knuckles and the Trail Blazers (Ed. Note: aka, Tim O'Brien and Hot Rize, a good bluegrass band. They would come out for an encore with electric instruments and do old Honky Tonk standards as Red Knuckles and the Trailblazers).

This book is available for purchase. Try Amazon.com or directly to the publisher.

COMING NEXT EDITION:

Message from the President, Wade Steinmetz

Board Member David Nelson's trip to North Carolina for Merlefest

More photos



The mad, mad sound tech.



Dennis Anderson and Rick Wingert with Cold Frosty Morn



Terry Jessee - MC Extraordinary



Miles Town



Longtime member Wayne Long and Spur of the Moment



Ed and Pete Hot Picking Duo



Rambling Laurels



Sherseth Family Band Plus