



Bluegrassin'

Volume 11, Issue 4

July-August 2009

The Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association is a non-profit association dedicated to promoting, preserving and sharing our love of bluegrass music in a spirit of family and friendship.

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Upcoming Bluegrass Events

July 10-12—National Folk Festival, Butte, MT. First presented in 1934, the National is the oldest multicultural festival in the nation. Visit www.nationalfolkfestival.com or call 406-497-6464 for more information.

July 11—Bluegrass Luau Party, Dallas Olson's house. More information later in this issue.

July 17-19—Kootenai River Bluegrass Festival, Troy, MT. See the ad later in this issue.

July 17-19—Darrington Bluegrass Festival. For more information visit www.glacierviewe.net/bluegrass or call Diana Morgan at 360-436-1179.

July 24-26—Hardtimes Bluegrass Festival, 10 miles south of Hamilton off Highway 93. See the article and ad later in this issue.

August 7-9—MRBA Campout, Forrest Flats, Clinton, MT. More information in this issue.

August 7-9—Bluewaters Bluegrass Festival, Medical Lake, WA. See the ad later in this issue

August 28-30—Bannock County Bluegrass Festival, Bannock County Fairgrounds, Pocatello, ID. For more information visit www.bannockfestivalbluegrassfestival.com or call 360-436-1179 or 208-234-0200.

September 4-6—ISBA Fall Bluegrass Festival, 1040 West Roseberry Road, Donnelly, ID. For more information visit www.idahosawtoothbluegrass.org.

September 12-14—Gibbonsville campout. More information next issue.

September 25-27—Trumble Creek Jam and Campout. More information later in this issue.

Recurring Show and Jams

- ♦ MISSOULA—Tuesdays, Top Hat Jam 7pm, Pinegrass plays at 9pm.
- ♦ MISSOULA – Tuesdays, Wheat Montana – Moozoola Opry 6pm 'til 8pm the Black Mountain Boys play. Admission is free, the band asks that you buy a sandwich or soup from the fine folks at Wheat Montana as you sit back and enjoy an evening of music.
- ♦ GREAT FALLS – 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Bert & Ernie's 300 1st Ave South) 7pm. Call 453-8003 for info.
- ♦ NORRIS HOT SPRINGS – Sunday evenings 7-10pm, Thermalgrass plays, The band includes Tom Murphy, Quentin King, and Ian Fleming

President's Corner**By Dallas Olson**

Hello all you bluegrass lovers. We are sure in the middle of a busy bluegrass season. Seems we have a bluegrass event within driving distance just about every weekend. I was able to attend both Mike and Tari Conroy's Memorial Day campout and also the Haven Campout and thoroughly enjoyed both events. We have some more good ones coming up and they are covered later in the newsletter.

The MRBA campout will be held August 7-9 this year. I want to encourage all our members to attend. Aside from the annual meeting, the spring festival and the winter jam sessions, this is the only other association sponsored event. It's a chance for our members to get together and enjoy a weekend of bluegrass along with a delicious supper hosted by the MRBA. We do ask members to sign up in advance. We have had a problem with folks showing up for the weekend without signing up and this has left us short of food. We appreciate your support on this.

I also want to mention the up coming Hardtimes Bluegrass Festival. Mike and Tari Conroy are bringing a bluegrass festival back to the Bitterroot Valley. With the demise of the Hamilton festival, we were without a bluegrass festival in the local area. The Conroys have picked a beautiful setting and have arranged for some talented bands to play. Plus, you certainly can't beat the price! I look forward to seeing you all there.

I'm having my own jam and potluck on Saturday, July 11th. The details are later in the newsletter. I hope you can attend.

The MRBA is always looking for new members. If you know anyone who is interested in bluegrass music, invite them to join the association. I am especially interested in involving young people in the music. Without them bluegrass music will slowly cease to exist.

If you aren't enjoying the MRBA website (www.mtbluegrass.com), you are missing some interesting and entertaining information. Phyllis Erck has done a great job with the website. If you see her say thanks.

I hope to see you at some of the upcoming events.

Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association

PO Box 1306, Missoula, MT 59806

(406) 549-2444

Website: www.mtbluegrass.comemail: mrba@mtbluegrass.com**President** – Dallas Olson**Vice President** – Mike Conroy**Secretary/Treasurer** – Lois Malikie, (406) 549-2444**Board Members**—Tari Conroy, Ben Essary, Brian Herbel, Ted Lowe**Merchandise Manager**—Lela Schaffer (406) 207-6564**Newsletter Editor**—Ben Essary (406) 777-7028**MRBA Webmaster**—Phyllis Erck mrba@mtbluegrass.com

Bluegrassin' is a bi-monthly publication of the **Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association**
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Full Page – \$25.00, 1/2 Page – \$15.00, 1/4 Page – \$10.00 Classified – \$5.00



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HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE MRBA

We have our newsletter printed at Staples and they are giving a generous credit of \$3.00 for each used printer ink cartridge turned in. They will accept 20 per month (any brand) from the club so if you have any used empty ink cartridges please get them to Lois and John Malikie so they can turn them in for credit for the club.

Membership Application
MONTANA ROCKIES BLUEGRASS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 1306, Missoula, MT 59806

Last Name _____ First Name _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone No. _____
E-mail _____ Individual (\$10.00) _____ Family (\$15.00) _____



BLUEGRASS LUAU PARTY

Saturday, July 11, 2pm til' Midnight

You're invited to a BLUEGRASS LUAU PARTY
At Dallas Olson's home, 2596 Eastside Hwy, Stevensville, MT
Located at the intersection of Eastside Hwy and Victor Crossing
Open mike 7-9 pm
Dress in your best Hawaiian outfit
Lots of jammin' and good food.
There will be a selection of local musicians' CD's for sale
Pot-Luck dinner at 6 PM. Bring a dish to share
Bring your lawn chairs



MRBA ANNUAL CAMPOUT

The Annual MRBA campout will be held August 7-9 at Forrest Flats, Clinton, MT. Forrest Flats is located on the north frontage road of Interstate 90 east of Missoula between Turah and Clinton. There will be signs on the road. Dry camping is available. So come on out and enjoy a weekend of great music, good companionship and good food! As in previous years we will have breakfast pot lucks on Saturday and Sunday morning. On Saturday, the association will provide the meat course and desert for the supper meal. We ask that members bring potluck dishes to finish out the supper. *We need members to register in advance for the number of people who will eat supper so we can plan on the food we need. Single memberships can have one meal. Family memberships can have the number of meals for the couple and minor children living in the home. If you want to invite non-members, the cost is \$10.00 per meal and we must know in advance. We have had a problem with people expecting to eat who have not signed up in advance and ask members to help us with this problem. If you do not sign up in advance do not expect to eat. To sign up email Lois Malikie at postage_due@msn.com or call 406-549-2444 no later than Monday, August 3, 2009.*

Conroys' Memorial Day Campout



9th Annual TRUMBLE CREEK BLUEGRASS CAMPOUT

September 25 - 27th

4260 Trumble Creek Road

Columbia Falls, Montana

Directions: WATCH FOR SIGNS ON HIWAY 40.

- **From Highway 2: Go west on Highway 40 at the Blue Moon intersection.**
 - **From Highway 93: Go east on Highway 40 a bit over 3 miles.**
- **From Highway 40, go south on Trumble Creek Road. Go about ½ mile.**

There will be more signs.

Saturday Night Potluck

And

Sunday Morning

Biscuits & Gravy Potluck

Bring friends and family.

For more information, contact Mary-Jane (406) 892-3197

ALL BLUEGRASS LOVERS WELCOME!!

The Haven Campout



KOOTENAI RIVER

BLUEGRASS & BEYOND



John Reischman and the Jaybirds

Jackstraw

Viper Central

Loose Digits

Mighty Squirrel

Big Red Barn

Bryan Bowers

Mike and Tari Conroy and Friends

Wise River Mercantile

Ray and Shirley Jacobs

JULY 17-19 ROOSEVELT PARK

Troy, Montana www.krbgf.org



Shook Mountain Productions, LLC (Mike & Tari Conroy) Present:

HARDTIMES BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

July 24-25-26, 2009

Featuring:

Gravelly Mtn. from Alberton, MT

Three Flats & A Spare from Boise, ID

Fred & Emily Frank from Idaho Falls, ID

Darby Sireens reunion tour

Spring Thaw from Missoula, MT

Bill & Verna Molenda from Darby, MT

Bosco Land & Stone Mountain Bluegrass from Casper, WY

Blue to the Bone from Victor, MT

Will Williams and Gravel Road from Grangeville, ID

JD Webb & the Downstate Ramblers from Baker, OR

Mike & Tari Conroy from Conner, MT

Special Featured Individuals that are Pioneers in Northwest Bluegrass

Chuck & Jeanne Burruss, Corvallis, MT

Fiddlin' Jimmy Widner, Darby, MT

Forrest Clark, Clinton, MT

Dale Berg, Libby, Mt

Ed Dobson, Pollock, ID

**Bring
Your
Lawn
Chairs**

**Bluegrass
Gospel
Sunday
Morning**

Location: 10 miles South of Hamilton, mile marker 37, The Thomas Ranch on Forest Hill Road

Admission: Adults-\$10.00 for weekend, Children under 12- \$5.00 for weekend

Dry Camping- \$10.00 for weekend

For more information call 1-406-821-3777 or email tariconroy@webtv.net

Hardtimes Bluegrass Festival**July 24,25,26, 2009****By Tari Conroy**

Hi all, Mike and I would like to invite everyone to the Hardtimes Bluegrass Festival in July. Good ol' time Bitterrooters have been kind enough to let us have the use of ranch lands owned by two families. It will be on a ridge where you can see the mountains of the Bitterroot like no other place. There's plenty of room for campers of all sizes. It's dry camping so bring your own water but we will have porta-potties. There is no electricity so generators will be allowed to run for a short time in the mornings but at noon we'll have it nice and quiet so that the bands performing on stage won't have to compete with other noise. We have been very honored by the bands that have signed on to play this festival as they really are going an extra mile to help a new festival get going. The stage will be in the timber so shade should be available all day long, you may have to keep moving with it but we all need a little exercise every now and again anyway! The plan is to have FUN-FUN-FUN! Bands will play from 7-10:00 Friday night. We'll start again at noon Saturday. Every band will play once on Saturday during the schedule, but we also have a time slot set aside for a band competition. If you would like to sign up and play a tune in the band competition we'd love to have you, at the end the winning band will get a fitting "Hardtimes" sort of prize (remember now we're here to have fun!) and at 7:00 we'll have the "Pioneers in Bluegrass" perform for us. We have a great admiration for the folks that got into this music before us and had a hand in getting us all interested, and want to take this time to show you all how special we think they are. When the Pioneers are thru we'll go back to the band schedule and plan on giving her all up for the day at 9:00 pm. After all there's got to be time for jamming! Sunday morning we'll have gospel music on stage from 10 to 12 open to anyone to sign up and do a gospel song or two (depending on how many sign up), we'll help with back up or you can do it all by yourself, what ever works for you. At noon we'll start with bands again and the festival will be over about 3:00. We've had a lot of great help offered and we'll have many friends to thank when it's all over with, it's a big job and we will probably need help during the festival with some things, so if you would like to help out just talk to either Mike or I and we'll see if there is something at that time that we could have you do. We hope to see everyone that loves bluegrass there. We don't know how big it will be, but we plan on everyone having a good time. See ya then! PS: Don't forget your lawn chairs!

Friday July 24

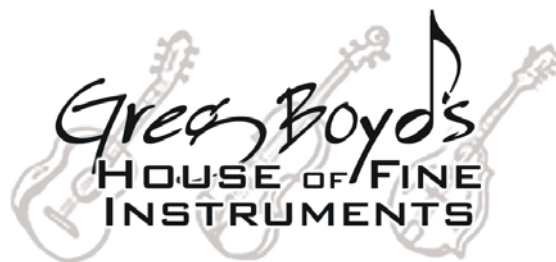
6:00 – 6:35 Blue to the Bone
 6:40 – 7:15 Bosco Land & Stone Mountain Bluegrass
 7:20 – 7:55 JD Webb & the Downstate Ramblers
 8:00 – 8:35 Will Williams & Gravel Road
 8:40 – 9:15 Gravelly Mtn.

Saturday July 25

12:00 – 12:35 Kids in Bluegrass
 12:40 – 1:15 Bosco Land & Stone Mountain Bluegrass
 1:20 – 1:55 Bill & Verna Molenda
 2:00 – 2:35 JD Webb & the Downstate Ramblers
 2:40 – 3:15 Will Williams & Gravel Road
 3:20 – 3:55 Blue to the Bone
 4:00 – 4:35 Darby Sireens
 4:40 – 5:25 Throw together band contest
 5:30 – 6:05 Spring Thaw
 6:10 – 7:00 Pioneers in Northwest Bluegrass
 7:05 – 7:40 Fred & Emily Frank
 7:45 – 8:20 3 Flats & a Spare
 8:25 – 9:00 Mike & Tari Conroy & Friends

Sunday July 26

10:00 – 11:55 Open Bluegrass Gospel Stage
 12:00 – 12:35 3 Flats & a Spare
 12:40 – 1:15 Fred & Emily Frank
 1:20 – 1:55 Spring Thaw
 2:00 – 2:35 Mike & Tari Conroy



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Blue Waters
Bluegrass Festival
Medical Lake, WA
(10 miles west of Spokane)

August 7th - 9th 2009

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Mark your calendars and come see what all the excitement is about.

FEATURING:

Steep Canyon Rangers

Crooked Still • Darrell Scott

Prairie Flyer • Jackstraw • Anne & Pete Sibley • Loose Digits • Down the Road
Custer's Grass Band • Pistol Packin' Mamas • Big Red Barn
Wanigan • Dead Fiddlers Society • Bluegrass Conspiracy

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www.bluewatersbluegrass.org

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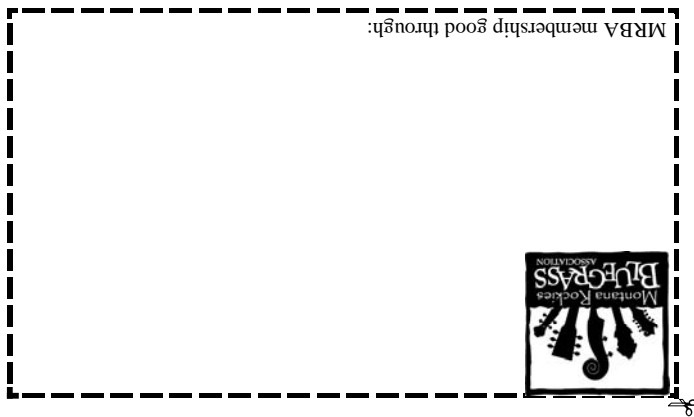
Free local calls

Located off I-90 exit 96, 1/4 mile on right



ATTENTION:

We have set up the address label on your newsletter to be your membership card, please clip it out and use it for proof of your membership to the MRBA.



PO Box 1306,
Missoula, MT 59806

