



# Bluegrassin'

Volume 11, Issue 6

November-December 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

December 5—MRBA Annual Meeting, Ruby's Inn, Missoula, MT. For more information see article inside this issue.

January 9—MRBA Jam, Ruby's Inn, Missoula, MT. Jamming starts at 2p.m., potluck at 5 p.m. then jamming 'til we drop.

February 13—MRBA Jam, Ruby's Inn, Missoula, MT. Jamming starts at 2p.m., potluck at 5 p.m. then jamming 'til we drop.

February 25-28—Wintergrass, Bellevue, WA. For more information visit [www.acousticssound.org](http://www.acousticssound.org) or call 253-428-8056.

March 13—MRBA Jam, Ruby's Inn, Missoula, MT. Jamming starts at 2p.m., potluck at 5 p.m. then jamming 'til we drop.

## 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

What happened to fall? One day it was summer and the next we had that miserable and record breaking cold weather hit the Bitterroot and Western Montana. Those of us with gardens were really scrambling to finish the harvest and preserve the fruits (and vegetables) of our labor. The cold snap also robbed us of our fall colors. The leaves froze on the trees in their summer green and the winds have now taken them away. I suppose we have to look back and remember all the good times at our bluegrass festivals and campouts during the summer.

I ended the summer with a very enjoyable bluegrass experience. My dear sister Lela gave me a grand birthday present this year. She took me to the Idaho Sawtooth Bluegrass Association's second fall festival. It was held outside Donnelly, Idaho. There were some good bands playing the festival and a lot of jam sessions. The weather was great. It was three days of fun. We stayed with our dear friends John and Raynee Redman and camped beside Will and Gail Williams. We were able to enjoy good friends, good food and great bluegrass music day and night. I even picked



up a couple of new recipes. I was able to get on stage and sing with some very good friends and wonderful musicians. People talk about dancing with the stars; well, I really got to go singing with the bluegrass stars of Idaho.

With winter coming on, we are planning our winter MRBA activities. We will hold the annual meeting on Saturday, December 5th at Ruby's Inn in Missoula. The article on the next page gives all the particulars on the meeting. We will have elections for the officers and board of directors. Some board members are giving up their positions so we know we have empty spots to fill. I believe there is a general feeling that we need to rejuvenate the association. That requires some new ideas and some effort. If you enjoy getting together and playing and listening to bluegrass music we need your help. This year more than ever, we need members to become more involved in leading the association. So, I ask you to come to the meeting and get involved.

**Dallas**

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# Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association

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## *MRBA Annual Meeting*

The annual meeting for the Montana Rockies Bluegrass Association will be held Saturday, December 5th at Ruby's Inn, 4825 North Reserve Street, Missoula, MT. The meeting will start at 2 p.m. During the meeting we will review association activities over the past year, elect officers and directors and plan the activities of the association for the next year. All leadership positions are up for election and we know some directors will be leaving their positions. To keep the association vibrant, we need your help and your input. We can only improve with the input of new ideas. We are searching for someone to take over as newsletter editor. The association publishes a newsletter every two months. Each issue requires 10 to 20 hours of effort. The editor needs to have some computer skills. We use the Microsoft Publisher program to prepare the newsletter and the association will provide the software. We will have a pizza party following the meeting with the association providing the pizzas and drinks. *We need you to contact John or Lois Maliekie at 549-2444 or at email [post-age\\_due@msn.com](mailto:post-age_due@msn.com) by Wednesday, December 2nd, if you plan to attend the meeting.* This allows us to plan the amount of food. Jamming follows the pizza party. Come on out and support your association.

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

## Wesley Douglas Wins Grand Targhee Flat Picking Contest

By: John Douglas

Wesley Douglas had been dreaming about getting a larger sized guitar for over a year, but he didn't think it would happen soon. Wesley is the fourteen year old son of John Douglas and Linda Brown, who has been playing guitar for about six years. He was first instructed by Mike Bennett, and, for the last three years, by Bill Neaves, both of Missoula. For the last three years, he has attended as many MRBA jams as he can, and is found most Tuesdays playing with Jesse Brown and Caleb Dostal during the Kids in Bluegrass showcase provided by the Black Mountain Boys at Wheat Montana.



In late August, Wesley attended the 22nd Grand Targhee Bluegrass Festival at the Wyoming ski resort near Driggs, Idaho, where he decided to try his hand at the Flat Pick Guitar Contest. It was all business when Wesley stepped on stage under a large tent at the resort. He was backed up by Tom Murphy of Bozeman on rhythm guitar. Bobbing his head to the music, Wesley played "Cuckoo's Nest" and a shortened version of "Old Dangerfield" to conform to the 4-minute performance rule. The audience appreciated this young contestant, but it was a long six hours before the judges announced the results on the main stage: Wesley was the first place winner, and received a new Gibson J-45 dreadnaught-size guitar as his prize! Wesley is happy to be part of a Missoula tradition---winning at the annual GTBF contest. A number of past or present MRBA members (Chad Fadley, Ian Fleming, and Brian Hall) have won either the guitar or the mandolin, or, in one case, both, at the Targhee Festival.

### RECYCLING INK CARTRIDGES PAYS OFF FOR THE MRBA

Thanks to the efforts of Lois and John Malikie and several other of our members, recycling ink cartridges through Staples has paid off for the association. Thus far we have received \$105 in recycle rewards and more savings are on the way. A special thanks goes out to Judy Bungarz who turned in 49 empty cartridges. Staples gives us 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. The recycling of these ink cartridges substantially reduces the cost of printing the newsletter

# 2009 IBMA Award Winners

BLUEGRASS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The Dillards  
The Lonesome Pine Fiddlers

ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR

Dailey and Vincent

VOCAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

Dailey and Vincent

INSTRUMENTAL GROUP OF THE YEAR

Michael Cleveland and Flamekeeper

MALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Dan Tyminski

FEMALE VOCALIST OF THE YEAR

Dale Ann Bradley

SONG OF THE YEAR

"Don't Throw Mama's Flowers Away"  
Written by Chris Stuart and Ivan Rosenberg  
Performed by Danny Paisley & Southern Grass

ALBUM OF THE YEAR

*Wheels* by Dan Tyminski

RECORDED EVENT OF THE YEAR

"Proud To Be a Daughter of Bluegrass" by the  
Daughters of Bluegrass

INSTRUMENTAL RECORDED PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

"Jerusalem Ridge" by Michael Cleveland &  
Flamekeeper

GOSPEL RECORDED PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

"On The Other Side" by Dailey & Vincent

EMERGING ARTIST OF THE YEAR

The SteelDrivers

INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMERS OF THE YEAR

BANJO

Kristin Scott Benson

BASS

Marshall Wilborn

FIDDLE

Michael Cleveland

DOBRO

Rob Ickes

GUITAR

Josh Williams

MANDOLIN

Jesse Brock

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

RECIPIENTS

Hylo Brown  
Pati Crooker  
Jody Rainwater  
Dick Spottswood  
Joe Wilson

Bluegrass Event of the Year Award:

Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival  
Oak Hill, New York; July 2008

For more information visit  
[www.ibma.org](http://www.ibma.org)



## MRBA Friends Win IBMA Song of the Year



Ivan Rosenberg



Chris Stuart

The IBMA Awards this year took on a special meaning to many MRBA members. The song “Don’t Throw Mama’s Flowers Away”, co-written by Chris Stuart and Ivan Rosenberg, was selected as the IBMA Song of the Year. Both Chris and Ivan both have close connections to the MRBA. Our association has sponsored Chris Stuart and Backcountry for concerts and Chris and other band members have many friends in the MRBA. Ivan Rosenberg is a former Missoula resident and MRBA member. The song was recorded by Danny Paisley and the Southern Grass. If you haven’t had the pleasure of listening to the song it is available on Paisley’s new album “The Room Over Mine.” You can also hear Paisley performing the song on his Myspace page at <http://www.myspace.com/dannypaisley>.

Ivan and Aaron Parrett and with Nann Alleman recently did a show in Missoula at the Downtown Dance Collective to promote Aaron and Ivan’s new CD “Stumbo Lost Wages.” During that show Ivan did a solo performance of the song. While Paisley performs the song up tempo, Ivan slowed the song down. It is a sad and moving song in any tempo. But with Ivan playing clawhammer banjo, it was especially mournful. Congratulations to both Chris and Ivan



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### Big Changes Underway at Two Northwest Festivals

Big changes are underway at two prominent Northwest bluegrass festivals. The Rivercity Bluegrass Festival, held in Portland, OR since 2005, is taking a year off in 2010 to reorganize. The festival will return January 14-16, 2011. Wintergrass will move to Bellevue, WA this year. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel February 25-28. The festival lineup this year includes several top bluegrass and Americana groups.

### **Don't Forget**

**Contact Lois and John Malikie  
By Wednesday, December 2nd  
If you plan to attend  
The MRBA Annual Meeting  
So we can plan the food  
Thanks for your Help!**

# Gibbonville Campout and Jam 2009





# Gibbonville Campout and Jam 2009 (con't)







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*Mike & Tari*





**Ruby's Inn**  
&  
Convention  
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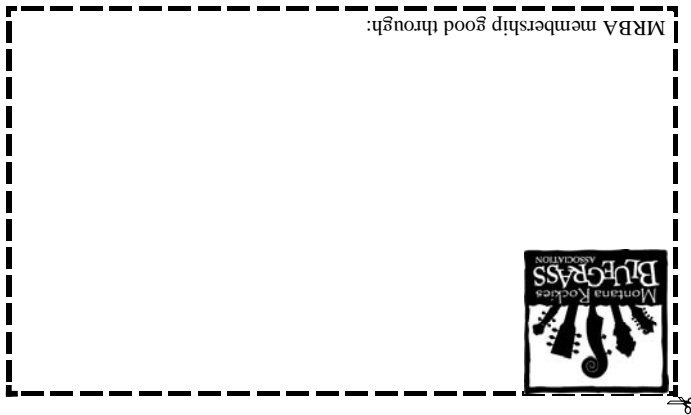
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***ATTENTION:***

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.



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